Hafa Adai!

NMC just about to announce RFP for gym project. PAGE 5
Learn how to apply for an ANA grant in free training. PAGE 8

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Atalig checked if he qualifies for court-appointed counsel

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Rota Mayor Efraim M. Atalig went to the U.S. Probation Office yesterday afternoon with temporary lawyer, Bruce Berline, to determine if he qualifies for a court-appointed counsel.

Atalig, 57, refused to comment upon his counsel's advice when he emerged from the Horiguchi Building in Garapan after the meeting.

In an interview with *Saipan Tribune*, Berline, the court-appointed counsel for preliminary matters, said that yesterday's meeting was meant to determine if Atalig qualifies for a court-appointed counsel to represent him in the case.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Magistrate Judge Heather L. Kennedy appointed Berline yesterday to represent the 57-year-old mayor in the case for preliminary matters, including the initial appearance.

In issuing the summons against Atalig, U.S. District Court for the NMI designated Judge David O. Carter directed the mayor to appear in court for an initial appearance today, Wednesday, at 1:30pm.

Federal Bureau of Investigation special agent Haejun Park served Atalig with the summons at the Rota

See ATALIG on Page 4

Rota Mayor Efraim M. Atalig confers with Bruce Berline, his court-appointed counsel for preliminary matters, in front of the federal court building yesterday afternoon after a meeting with the U.S. Probation Office. The meeting was intended to determine if the mayor qualifies for a court-appointed counsel.

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

ON TAKEOVER OF MARIANA RESORT

IPI: We need approval first

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

It has been reported that Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC will absorb all affected employees when the casino operator takes over the operation of the Mariana Resort & Spa by the end of the month. But before that happens, IPI would need to obtain the approval of the CNMI Lottery Commission and the Department of Public Lands in order to be allowed to take over the operations of the Marpi hotel.

DPL had already issued a notice of intent to award the more than 55,000-square-meter properties leased by the Kitami family-owned Kan Pacific Saipan Ltd. to IPI, which was the lone company that submitted an RFP when KPS' lease expired. That effectively ends KPS' 40 years of doing business in the CNMI, with more than 100 of their employees facing an uncertain future.

Kan Pacific Saipan Ltd., which operates Mariana Resort, also oper-

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Supplemental funding for runway lighting gets OK

Two committees of the Commonwealth Ports Authority board approved last Friday a request for $59,751 more to continue repairs on the runway lights of the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport.

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Local

McDonald's signs up as Field of Heroes sponsor

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

The McDonald's franchise on Saipan and Guam is now an official sponsor of the annual Field of Heroes commemoration ceremony.

Yesterday, McDonald's Saipan and Guam donated $1,000 to the Tan Siu Lin Foundation, which will spearhead the 3rd Annual Field of Heroes ceremony that commemorates the lives of those who died during the 9/11 tragedy, and those who lost their lives while serving their country.

According Marcia Ayuyu, McDonald's Saipan and Guam owner, McDonald's just wants "to show our support for the community in every way that we can."

Ayuyu said that McDonald's strongly believes in keeping the memory of the nation's fallen alive.

"We are proud to contribute to our fallen heroes because we shouldn't forget what they did for us. They protected our country," she said.

Catherine Attao-Toves, TanHoldings vice president for corporate affairs/corporate HR, said the Field of Heroes event is intended "to promote community awareness and to remember our heroes."

Attao-Toves said the event is set around Sept. 11 to show appreciation and gratitude to all military veterans, first responders, fire law enforcement officers, and fallen heroes.

"The money raised will be given to the Northern Marianas Humanities Council… to help with post-traumatic stress. …We want to continue to support our military families and our heroes that are coming back home…and our community heroes," she said.

The Tan Siu Lin Foundation is encouraging the community to gather at the Garapan Fishing Base on Sept. 11, at 4:30pm.

"We are going to do our freedom walk at 5pm to the American Memorial Park and immediately following will be the 9/11 tribute ceremony," said Attao-Toves.

Individuals interested in supporting the cause can make flag and T-shirt orders at the JP Center in Garapan or at the Shirley's Coffee Shop in Susupe. Flags can be ordered for $10 and will be posted at the American Memorial Park on the day of the event and T-shirts cost $15 each.

September is Youth Empowerment Month

ERWIN ENCINARES
Student attendees of the Youth Advisory Panel from different schools, both public and private, discuss their calendar of events for September yesterday at the Seaside Hall of the Kanoa Resort.

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Youth Advisory Panel met yesterday at the Seaside Hall of the Kanoa Resort to plan out their schedule for the month, soon after acting governor Victor B. Hocog signed a proclamation declaring September as Youth Empowerment Month.

The YAP planning session at the Kanoa Resort was in collaboration with the Public School System.

"…We gather all of our youth advisory leaders and they plan, discuss, and collaborate with [leaders from] other schools. They also bring activities to the middle and elementary schools," said PSS Personal Responsibility Education Program director Melisha San Nicolas.

San Nicolas noted that YAP leaders totaled about 70 to 80 yesterday.

Kagman High School YAP president Genzo Gonzales noted that being in YAP is way for students to represent the school in a positive light.

"Being a part of the YAP is basically being a leader for your school," he said.

KHS YAP vice president Aundrea Aldan noted that some of the outreach programs they do include anti-bullying talks.

"We do a lot of outreach to middle school and elementary levels, where we talk about bullying, sexual violence, cyber bullying, and things like that," she said. Aldan's involvement with YAP dates back to her time at the Chacha Oceanview Middle School.

"We made a difference back in middle school, where we are getting them excited for high school. One of the main things that makes us youth leaders is getting these incoming students excited for the new school year and getting them ready for high school," said Gonzales.

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Supplemental funding for runway lighting gets OK

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Two committees of the Commonwealth Ports Authority board approved last Friday a request for $59,751 more to continue repairs on the runway lights of the Francisco C. Ada/ Saipan International Airport.

At a joint meeting of the finance and personnel committees, CPA board member and finance committee chair Kimberlyn King-Hinds said that CPA executive assistant/project manager Wendi L. Prater has asked for the board's permit to allow a change order in the runway lighting project.

The change order, according to Prater, is due to changes made by Federal Aviation Administration, including additional hand holes and wiring, relocation of the transformer outside the runway object-free area and relocation of the precision approach path indicator lighting transformer.

Prater also cited the need to build a concrete pad for PAPI, relocation of the runway end identifier lights transformer and a deduction from the contract for radios that were removed from scope.

King-Hinds said Prater disclosed that the original cost was for $123,937 but was negotiated down to the final amount of $59,751.

There is a 127-calendar day time extension associated with the change order. The extension will change the completion date of the project from July 26 to Nov. 30, 2018.

Prater noted in the request that the equipment being installed will be turned over to FAA at the end of the project. That means that FAA will be responsible for maintenance and replacement.

Roman Tudela, CPA board member and personnel committee chair, said he does not see any reason to delay this change order.

Tudela pointed out that even CPA's comptroller already approved the request.

CPA board member Barrie C. Toves said Prater stated that a request for supplemental funding has been submitted to CPA's comptroller and will be brought before the board at the finance facilities committee meeting.

Toves said they should also approve the request for supplemental funding so there is no need for the finance committee to return.

With Toves' suggestion, King-Hinds said her motion would be to approve the change order and the supplemental funding. No one opposed.

The other board members present at the joint committee hearing were former Saipan senators Pete P. Reyes and Thomas "Kiyu" P. Villagomez.

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Interior's Zinke to visit NMI

Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke will be making his first visit to the CNMI when he arrives tomorrow with Gov. Ralph DLG Torres.

Zinke, who previously served as Montana's at-large district in the U.S. House of Representatives, will be arriving Thursday afternoon with Torres.

They are expected to land at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport at 4pm.

Zinke will be leading a federal delegation that will include Office of Insular Affairs assistant secretary Douglas Domenech, OIA director Nik Pula, and other White House officials.

He could be the highest member of the Trump Cabinet that will be making a visit in the CNMI. Last month, Department of Defense Deputy Assistant Secretary Allison Sands visited Tinian in relation to the planned Tinian divert operations.

It is not yet known what would be the nature of Zinke's visit. ***(Jon Perez)***

Consecutive earthquakes felt in Marianas

Two earthquakes that were both in the 5.0-magnitude range shook the CNMI in recent days. That came soon after a 6.6 magnitude earthquake was felt in the Marianas just a few days ago.

Last Monday, Sept. 3, at around 11pm, the first earthquake, a 5.3-magnitude earthquake, shook the Marianas.

According to a report from the Homeland Security and Emergency Management Office, the first earthquake occurred 197 miles east-southeast of Pagan, at a depth of 5.5 miles.

The second earthquake occurred shortly after 9am yesterday. The second tremor was 5.0-magnitude earthquake that was located 39 miles south-southeast of Pagan. The earthquake had a depth of 118 miles.

According to Homeland Security information officer Nadine Deleon Guerrero, there have been no reports of injuries or damage and there were no tsunami warnings.

Tremors happen daily in the CNMI region but are usually aren't felt.

When asked when the CNMI community should take action, Deleon Guerrero said evacuation is necessary once the earthquake is reported to be a magnitude 8.1 or higher or if the tremor lasts for more than 20 seconds. ***(Kimberly A. Bautista)***

CPA BOARD MEETING

Commonwealth Ports Authority's board member and finance committee chair Kimberlyn King-Hinds explains the request for a supplemental funding for the airport's runway lighting project during the CPA's joint finance and personnel committees meeting last Friday in the Aircraft Rescue and Fire Firefighting classroom at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport.

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

See story on Page 3

Humanities Council continues search for new chief

The NMI Humanities Council board continues to look for a next new executive director in the wake of Scott Russell's retirement this month.

Council board chair Polly DLG Masga noted in an interview last week that they are continuing their search. She added that there were about seven applicants for the position, which has been announced twice already.

"These are definitely hard shoes to fill," said Masga, referring to Russell's departure from the council. "…We hope that whoever is selected for the [council] has the same passion for the humanities."

"We want somebody who isn't just there for the job, but wants to be an intricate part of who we are as the Humanities Council," she noted.

The council threw a retirement party for Russell last Friday.

Russell has been on Saipan for 44 years and has been associated with the council since its creation during the Trust Territory times.

Russell noted in a previous interview that he expects the new leader to have a fresh perspective of contemporary issues such as the upward trend in economic development, social issues on the island, and even the Chinese presence in the region.

"…I am looking forward to them tackling those issues and providing great humanities programs to the people of the Commonwealth," he noted.

Russell said he plans to visit his brother in Ohio and his daughter in Oregon before ultimately returning to Saipan. ***(Erwin Encinares)***

MINA prepares to host Green Gala

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Micronesian Islands Nature Alliance is taking a deep breath as it prepares to host its biggest event of the year, the annual Green Gala, a glittering party that is intended to raise funds to sustain its many environmental projects.

According to MINA executive director Roberta Guerrero, MINA has been working tirelessly to make sure that the Green Gala on Sept. 14 at the Hibiscus Hall of the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan will run smoothly.

Guerrero said the event—a celebration of the environment—would bring together individuals who are passionate about it.

"The community can expect a celebration for our environment, which includes good friends getting together in support of the cause to make sure we're aware that we only have one island and it's ours to protect," she said.

Guerrero said the Green Gala theme this year is "International Year of the Reef" and would highlight Micronesia's pristine reefs.

"We want to focus and highlight the beauty of the reef the surrounds us and the need to keep it healthy," she said.

The Green Gala will also feature the annual Green Awards that include the Green Business of the Year, Environmental Hero, and Environmental Champion award.

Community members can expect a sumptuous dinner, entertainment, a silent auction, and the grand raffle," she said.

Guerrero said that MINA expects to sell out all tickets and guests occupying the entire venue at the Hibiscus Hall

For individuals still interested in purchasing tickets and supporting the Green Gala event, tickets are currently still available at the MINA office on Middle Road or call 233-REEF (7333), or email minaoutreach@gmail.com. The price of admission is $75 per person.

ATALIG

From Page 1

Mayor's Office last Friday.

Berline said that today's hearing is just for Atalig's initial appearance but most likely also for his arraignment.

"Right now I'm appointed by the court to represent him so we might be moving straight to arraignment and the judge will make the determination," the lawyer said.

Berline said he does not expect the U.S. government to move to detain Atalig.

The indictment charged Atalig with one count of wire fraud.

A federal grand jury had indicted the mayor after he allegedly arranged a government-funded trip from Rota to Guam for himself and 12 others, including eight municipal employees, on a false claim that he was going to check for surplus equipment at the Naval Base in Guam. According to the allegation, he actually went there to participate in a political rally of the GOP last June 23 in Mangilao.

Last Friday, the Office of the Attorney General filed an information charging Atalig and seven other Rota municipal officials each with theft and misconduct in public office arising from the same political rally. The defendants will be arraigned at the Superior Court on Sept. 28.

IPI

From Page 1

ates and maintains the Mandi Asian Spa, Mariana Country Club, the 50-meter Olympic-size swimming pool, and a baseball field.

Kan Pacific plans to retain close to 30 of its Mariana Resort employees and will transfer them to their other businesses—the Zen Teppanyaki restaurant in Garapan, the Mariana Lounge along Beach Road, and Mariana Grand Service, a tourist transport service.

IPI Special Projects senior vice president Viola Alepuyo told *Saipan Tribune* that their company is willing to absorb all Mariana Resort workers who will be affected by the shutdown. "But we have to make it clear that we will hire all of the employees as long as they are willing to stay and if we're allowed to [take over] Mariana Resort."

"Because right now, we don't have a hotel. So, it doesn't make any sense for us to hire 141 employees without a hotel. We would hire them, if we're allowed to run Mariana Resort, if ever DPL gives us the permission to take over the operations of Mariana Resort."

IPI had submitted three requests to the Casino Lottery Commission. The three members of the commission—chair Mark Rabauliman and commissioners Larrisa Larson and Robert Guerrero—unanimously voted to grant the first one, extending the date of completion to Feb. 28, 2021 of the initial gaming facility in Garapan.

The other two requests refer to IPI being allowed to operate a less than five-star hotel and to already operate the completed portions of the IGF. The second request is tied to the Mariana Resort, which is considered a three-star facility.

Alepuyo said she doesn't want to look like she's pointing fingers when it comes to granting their request to take over and operate Mariana Resort. "We just want to make sure that people understand that we can't hire them yet if we're not running Mariana Resort because there won't be any operations."

She added that they could not even put the workers in their Garapan facility since the hotel is not operational yet after the construction project encountered unforeseen and other issues like Typhoon Soudelor and other work-related problems.

Alepuyo said they couldn't officially hire the workers after Sept. 30 until the request for proposals they submitted to DPL and the CLC waives the five-star quality requirement. "Right now, it is already [Tuesday], we submitted the RFP but we haven't received any decision yet."

"I don't want to say that they are guaranteed to be hired and then at the end of the month they are knocking at our doors and saying 'you guaranteed me a job.' The only way we can guarantee them a job is when we're already granted to operate Mariana Resort."

She added that procedures and steps need to be followed when they absorb the workers, even those guest workers under the work visa category. "I can't guarantee that we can hire CWs if we don't follow the procedures. I mean, does the guarantee to hire all employees automatic?"

"If, there are, in fact, CWs, we will follow whatever the procedure is set by law to make sure we do what's necessary to get them on board. I'm sure that we need to be given some time in order to transition. There needs to have a transition period."

Still, it all boils down to CLC and DPL allowing them to operate a facility that's less than a five- or four-star hotel and give them the authority to take over Mariana Resort.

"We have to be given authority by [CLC] to operate something that is less than five- or four-star. And then, when all that is done, we need a transition period with the current management of Mariana Resort.

"But the most important thing is going to be the employees. That needs the most immediate attention. Why? Because there are some people that require us to do extra steps to make sure they are really employed."

NMC just about to announce RFP for gym project

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

The Northern Marianas College is getting ready to announce a request for proposal for the reconstruction of its gymnasium, which was left in shambles in 2015 by Typhoon Soudelor.

Interim NMC president Frankie Eliptico gave this update as he did a presentation on several ongoing and completed projects at NMC's As Terlaje campus during the Rotary Club of Saipan meeting yesterday at the Hyatt Regency Saipan.

According to Eliptico, the architectural and engineering design phase of the gymnasium is scheduled to be completed as early as October 2018. NMC contracted Taneguchi, Ruth, Makio Architects, or TRMA, to work on the design.

Once the design phase is completed, Elipitco said, NMC would move on to the bidding process to entertain proposals for the reconstruction of the gym, which he noted in an interview yesterday would be "expanded."

Eliptico

"[The gym] is not going to be built into exactly what it was. We are including a number of added features to the gym: It's going to have a stage, a couple classrooms, offices, and other things," Eliptico said, adding that the gym once rebuilt, would be open to public use and could accommodate about 1,100 individuals.

Eliptico said NMC received funding of about $4 million from the Federal Emergency Management Agency after Soudelor, and noted that the original gym, prior to its destruction, was built using a Community Development Block Grant.

"We're excited that the new gym will be open in about a year and a half" said Eliptico, adding that the new facility can be used by other government agencies to host other events.

Benedetto leaving CNMI again

Assistant U.S. attorney James Benedetto is leaving the CNMI once more, this time to work with the ethics office of the U.S. Department of Justice in Washington, D.C.

Benedetto his last day with the U.S. Attorney's Office is on Sept. 14.

Benedetto

His work at the main office won't be in prosecution but with ethics. He said his new job will be good for his retirement.

Benedetto said he obviously has mixed feelings about leaving Saipan again. "There's a lot of people that I'm going to miss. But I left before and came back. Maybe, after I work four years in D.C., I'll come back and retire here and not work," he said.

Benedetto first came to Saipan in June 1999 to work as a prosecutor with the Office of the Attorney General Criminal Division.

Benedetto then went on hiatus for five months to study for the bar in Seattle. He later got hired by the Department of the Interior to be the federal ombudsman in the CNMI. From federal ombudsman he moved to U.S. Attorney's Office in 2008 as a prosecutor.

In 2011, Benedetto got detailed to the U.S. State Department to work overseas, training prosecutors and judges in East Timor.

In April 2016, Benedetto came back to Saipan to work with the U.S. Attorney's Office. ***(Ferdie De La Torre)***

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Fare validity: 10% discount is valid for fares in economy booking classes L, T, S, W, V, and Q, and business booking class P. Travel is valid on United®-operated flights and United flights operated by United Express® only. Connections are valid through Guam (GUM), Honolulu (HNL) or Tokyo (NRT). United MileagePlus upgrades and other marketing programs are not permitted. Seats are capacity controlled and may not be available on all flights and/or dates.
Miscellaneous: Other discounts and travel certificates are not applicable. Offer subject to change at any time. Advance purchase may be required. All published fare rules apply.

High court: Legislative pay raises are unlawful

On Aug. 30, 2018, the CNMI Supreme Court issued its opinion in *Manibusan v. Larson*, answering two certified questions submitted for review by Attorney General Edward Manibusan and Finance Secretary Larissa Larson.

The parties submitted the petition for certified question after the Superior Court entered a preliminary injunction, preventing the salary increases enacted by Public Law 19-83 from being implemented pending a ruling on the law's constitutionality.

The first question asked the high court to review whether the presence of four sitting members of the Legislature on the advisory commission on compensation violated Article II, Section 11 of the NMI Constitution.

Section 11 prohibits legislators from serving in any other Commonwealth government position and includes a ban on legislators' service on independent commissions. The majority found that the advisory commission is not an independent commission, citing support in the Constitution's text, analysis of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and other historical documents. Because the advisory commission is not an independent commission, the high court found Section 11 does not restrict legislators from serving on it. The dissent found differently, holding that effectuating the spirit of the Constitution and goals of its framers necessitates the advisory commission's independence.

The second question requested the high court to review whether the salary increases instituted pursuant to Public Laws 4-32, 7-31, and 19-83 were unconstitutional due to the increases either exceeding the change in an accepted price index, not using a composite price index, or exceeding the advisory commission's recommendation. The question required the court to analyze the procedure for enacting salary increases for executive, legislative, and judicial officers. The high court reviewed Section 10, determining it contained five requirements that must be followed when enacting legislative salary increases. In particular, the Supreme Court found the Constitution restricted the Legislature from enacting a salary increase greater than the maximum amount recommended by the commission. Additionally, the high court determined Section 10 necessitated that the advisory commission 1) choose a CPI; 2) review the percentage change of that CPI for the period since the last salary change; and 3) make a salary recommendation that falls within the percentage change. As a result of the high court's answer, it found that the salary increases in Public Laws 4-32, 7-31, and 19-83 violated Section 10 of the Constitution. ***(PR)***

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One (1) techZone Supervisor

Minimum Qualifications: High school diploma (may be foreign educational equivalent), two (2) years of experience in job offered or two (2) years of experience as an inventory technician for cellular phones and devices, and six (6) months of experience using Microsoft Excel and MindBill Resource Manager software.

Duties: Supervises techZone technicians in programming and activation of cellular phones and devices, headsets and accessories utilizing knowledge of their features and understanding of all applications/protocols required for cell phones, headsets and accessories. Supervises techZone technicians in performing repairs and upgrades of cellular phones and devices, headsets and accessories, including disassembling, repairing replacing parts, reassembling units and testing repaired cellular phones and devices, headsets and accessories, and upgrades of operating systems for cellular phones and devices operating systems. Performs programming, activation, repairs and upgrades for cellular phones and devices, headsets and accessories. Determines work schedules and assignments for techZone technicians. Ensures customer issues are resolved in a timely manner. Assists techZone Managers in overseeing all aspects of techZone operations. Conducts and/or coordinates training for new and existing techZone technicians. Tracks and monitors inventory and prepares inventory reports. Prepares daily, weekly and monthly service reports. Utilizes Microsoft Excel software, MindBill Resource Manager software and other tools in performing job duties.

One (1) CATV Headend Bench Technician

Minimum Qualifications: High school diploma (may be foreign equivalent); two (2) years of experience as a CATV Headend/Bench Technician or Bench Technician; and six (6) months of experience using Arris CHP MAX Headend Optics Platform Receiver hardware, Arris CHP MAX Headend Optics Platform Transmitter hardware, Cisco Prisma Optics Platform Receiver, Cisco Prisma Optics Platform Transmitter and Cisco Local Craft Interface software.

Duties: Performs regular maintenance, repair, testing alignment, alterations and adjustment on all Cable TV ("CATV') headend electronic equipment by using various telecommunication test equipment and tools. Optimizes nodes for Arris CHP Max Headend Optic Platform Transmitter/Receiver and Cisco system. Assembles, aligns, repairs and maintains satellite dishes and configures satellite receivers/decoders parameters, and installs updated software. Performs RF signal alignment on analog and digital CATV systems at the headend on a regular basis. Performs regular proof of performance and other headend testing, documentation and reporting in accordance with FCC rules. Monitors and analyzes network downstream and upstream carriers on a regular basis and performs ingress mitigation, when necessary. Performs all task related to the hybrid cable, fiber coaxial system's operation and maintenance. Repairs faulty equipment such as defective and damaged optical transmitter/receiver, AC and DC power supply, RF amplifiers, encoder, satellite decoder, modulator, demodulator and other associated equipment. Utilizes Arris CHP MAX Headend Optics Platform Receiver hardware, Arris CHP MAX Headend Optics Platform Transmitter hardware, Cisco Prisma Optics Platform Receiver, Cisco Prisma Optics Platform Transmitter and Cisco Local Craft Interface software in performing job duties.

One (1) Maintenance Technician

Minimum Qualifications: High school diploma (may be foreign educational equivalent), one (1) year of experience in job offered or Fiber Technician and one (1) year of experience using Cisco Nodes hardware, Scientific Atlanta amplifiers hardware or other broad band signal amplifier, line extender amplifier and CATV passive devices.

Duties: Responsible for all tasks related to the Hybrid Fiber Coaxial system's operation and maintenance. Performs preventive and demand maintenance tasks from the output of the headend, through the fiber optic distribution system to the node, through the trunk system to the distribution system, through the distribution tap to all terminal points with a drop system both upstream and downstream. Responds to area outages and problems. Responsible for all tasks associate with the Hybrid Fiber Coaxial optical, trunk, and distribution system. Troubleshoot and repair area outages and poor reception problems. Performs return path ingress mitigation. Performs upstream and downstream sweep alignment. Diagnoses HFC leakage and repair. Performs mainline CATV construction. Performs mainline active and passive devices installation. Installs standby power supply and tests/operation and maintenance of the Alpha XM3 power supplies. Locates underground HFC infrastructure using a cable locator or a ground penetrating radar and marks the depth and location for clearance purpose and underground trenching build. Performs preventive maintenance on CATV infrastructure to include coaxial cabling and fiber optic equipment. Ensures FCC compliance testing and compliance with OSHA, NEC, and company safety rules and procedures. Utilizes Cisco Nodes hardware, Scientific Atlanta amplifiers, line extender amplifiers hardware and CATV passive devices in performing job duties.

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'RFP terms were not feasible for Kan Pacific'

Kan Pacific Saipan Ltd. said in a statement that the terms of the request for proposal released by the Department of Public Lands were not feasible for them to submit their own bid that could have extended their land lease of the Marpi properties.

KPS leased the more than 50,000-square-meter Marpi land for 40 years, with facilities that included a 50-meter Olympic-size swimming pool, baseball field, hotel and spa, and the 18-hole Mariana Country Club golf course.

That 40-year lease agreement expired on April 30 this year. DPL issued an RFP to see if there are other businesses or investors that are interested in the properties.

"If it were not for the CNMI law that limits lease terms for 40 years, KPS would have gladly continued operating the resort for many years to come. However, because of that limit, KPS was no longer able to lease the resort property," it said in the statement.

"DPL issued an RFP to obtain proposals for the leasing of the property under conditions that made it impossible for KPS to submit a proposal. Imperial Pacific [International (CNMI) LLC] was the lone party to submit a proposal."

IPI had shown interest in leasing the Marpi properties where it hopes to build Phase I and II of its multi-billion dollar investment on Saipan, which included the still-to-be finished initial gaming facility in Garapan.

DPL Secretary Marianne Teregeyo told *Saipan Tribune* in an earlier interview that they had already issued a notice of intent to award. However, the actual lease agreement had not been finalized yet, hence the permit to allow an extension so KPS could continue its operations.

Its statement said that KPS was under the impression that, even before its lease agreement was terminated, there would be a delay in awarding the lease to IPI, with even not being awarded also a possibility.

"It appeared that if a lease was going to be awarded to [IPI], it was going to take a substantial period of time for that to happen and there appeared to be no immediate plan for anyone to take over the operations of [MRS] after the expirations of [KPS'] lease," it said.

"[KPS] informed DPL that [we're] willing to operate the resort for the next one or two or three years on the same terms as its then current lease, subject to 90 days notice of termination."

DPL, however, did not agree with KPS' proposals and again issued another RFP, this time for a management agreement for the operations of the hotel resort.

KPS said the terms of the RFP were restrictive and does not allow adequate compensation to justify the responsible operation of MRS that included a guarantee of a yearly amount of money paid to DPL.

"The terms of the RFP were not realistic or feasible for KPS. KPS was not in a position to submit a proposal. The RFP also stated that if a management agreement was awarded, [KPS] would be given 30 days notice of termination upon the acceptance of a proposal," KPS' statement said.

They said that they also informed DPL numerous times that the 30-day notice of termination is not enough for them to vacate the premises. "Such a short period would not allow for the continuation of the taking of reservations into the future, and would not allow sufficient time for KPS to remove its many items of personal property from the premises after discontinuing its operation of the resort."

"KPS reiterated its willingness to continue operating the resort subject to a 90-day termination notice, and eventually even expressed willingness to accept a shorter period for such notice of termination. However, [KPS's] offer was not accepted. Knowing that [KPS] operations of the resort could be terminated on a mere 30-day notice, [KPS] was no longer able to take reservations into the future."

KPS added that the Kitami family was sensitive to the needs of their employees as they would also need time to find other work opportunities. "The Kitami family certainly wanted to continue operating [MRS]. …"KPS operated the public swimming pool for nearly 30 years, has long maintained local discounts to golfers and to patrons of Mandi Asian Spa, and has continuously provided a wide variety of community services."

KPS, the statement added, has also conducted business in the CNMI in an honorable and decent manner by timely paying its rent and taxes, consistently hiring and training local workers, and providing excellent services and products to all its customers.

"KPS has enjoyed contributing to the CNMI community throughout its operation of the [MRS] and did not want its contributions to end. However, it has finally become too impractical to continue. So, it is with reluctant and very heavy heart that [KPS] and the Kitami family must discontinue operating [MRS]." ***(Jon Perez)***

UOG gets $75K USDA grant

"Drones and off-roading! Who says science isn't fun?" said Dr. Austin Shelton, the executive director of the University of Guam's Center for Island Sustainability. "We're excited to innovate environmental solutions for our island through this new partnership with USDA."

The center and the UOG Sea Grant Program were recently awarded a $75,000 conservation innovation grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

The competitive grant will support the Guam Restoration of Watersheds Initiative, which aims to improve the health of Guam's watershed and coastal ecosystems.

The GROW Initiative takes an interdisciplinary approach to testing and developing novel tools to restore degraded watersheds, coral reefs, and fisheries. The grant will support innovative strategies such as using drones to disperse seeds and soil in hard-to-reach eroding hillsides. The initiative will also engage with the local off-roading community to assist with planting efforts by transporting supplies and volunteers to remote watershed sites. ***(UOG)***

CRM: Permittees must have land use permits

At the request of CNMI permitting agencies, to ensure compliance, the Division of Coastal Resources Management has informed all current and future permittees that they must have land use permissions to engage in projects or activities at proposed site locations.

For private lands, submission of proof of valid leases are required.

For public lands, permission from the Department of Public Lands or, in the case of submerged lands or within marine protected areas, the Department of Lands and Natural Resources, may be required.

If there are any questions or concerns with this requirement, contact (670) 664-8300.

The Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality's Division of Coastal Resources Management strives to work closely with agency partners and stakeholders to promote wise use and conservation of the CNMI's resources. ***(PR)***

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**2018 Rogue Sport 2WD Retail price $23,995 with 20% down. 3% APR at 60 payments of $344.93 or $159.20 per paycheck at 26 pay periods per year on approved credit. Total deferred $20,695.80.

Learn how to apply for an ANA grant in free training

The Administration for Native Americans, through its Pacific Region Training and Technical Assistance provider in Hawaii, Ka'ānani'au LLC, is once again offering a free three-day workshop titled "Project Planning & Development," to help participants develop a project idea in preparation for writing an ANA grant for the next cycle.

This is the first of two sections. The second section, "Pre-Application Training," will take place early next spring.

The grant applications are generally due in early April.

The three-day training runs from Oct. 15 through 17, from Monday through Wednesday, from 9am to 4pm daily. The location will be announced soon.

The class will be led by Keone Nunes, ANA Pacific Region director. This year, 500 Sails co-founder and MANGO pro tem treasurer Emma Perez will be joining Nunes to teach the class.

Nunes is a graduate of the University of Hawaii at Mānoa with a bachelor's degree in Anthropology and certification in Hawaiian Language. He has been training and facilitating on a national level since 1990 and has been working with the ANA Pacific Region since 2006. He is also a cultural practitioner in the field of *kākau* (Hawaiian tattooing) as well as other aspects of Hawaiian culture.

Perez has 30-plus years of nonprofit finance experience and has acted as the financial member of successful grant writing teams for a multitude of funders. She was part of the ANA grant writing teams here in the CNMI for both 500 Sails and the Carolinian Affairs Office that were awarded a total of $1,026,191 since 2016.

Ka'ānani'au Pacific Region director Keone Nunes.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Whether you're a community advocate starting a new organization or a seasoned grants veteran looking to form an ANA-eligible project from the ground up, you'll definitely want to attend. All the fundamentals of forming a great community-based project will be covered in this free three-day training. It's the perfect way to build the skills of your organization's project teams.

"It's best to bring a team from your organization for all three days," said Perez. "You want the dreamer, the wordsmith, and the numbers person, or some combination of those skills. It takes a team to write a successful grant. This training is the perfect opportunity to help develop the next generation of grant writers for the CNMI."

Although you may come as a walk-in on the first day, to prepare enough materials, participants on all three islands are encouraged to register online at http://anapacificbasin.org. Click on Training/Training Event and follow links to Saipan registration. ***(PR)***

Grand jury indicts first Guam case of felony animal cruelty due to neglect

GUAM—Melchor Antolin of Dededo was indicted by a grand jury on Aug. 21, 2018, on one count of first degree animal cruelty as third degree felony and one count of animal abandonment as a petty misdemeanor. An arraignment hearing is scheduled for today, Sept. 5, 2018.

The case involves a pitbull named Thor. On Jan. 22, 2018, Guam Animal Control was notified that Thor, an adult male pitbull belonging to Antolin, 43, was suffering from an untreated medical condition.

Upon visiting the house where Thor was chained, the dog was found to have a tumor larger than a basketball growing from his leg. Animal Control instructed that Thor needed immediate medical attention. After repeated follow-ups and continued neglect by Antolin, Animal Control confiscated the animal on June 27, 2018.

Animal Control brought Thor to the GAIN animal shelter to be euthanized due to his condition. "Multiple veterinarians have since reviewed Thor's situation, and all were shocked," said GAIN board president Cyrus Luhr. "Thor suffered through extreme pain, his tumor was growing for months, and weighed about 15 pounds."

"Every time he moved, his skin would tear," Luhr added.

"Thor needed medical attention early on," said Gabe Baker, GAIN board member. "But instead he suffered needlessly, and the tumor slowly grew beyond the point [where] he could be saved."

"Guam law requires owners to provide the veterinary care needed by their pets. Failure to do so is a crime," said Dr. Thomas Poole, Guam territorial veterinarian.

While prior felony animal cruelty cases have been prosecuted in Guam, they stemmed from physical violence toward an animal. This is believed to be the first felony animal cruelty case due to neglect.

"This is a very important case for Guam," said Luhr. "If you purposefully hurt an animal, whether through physical violence or neglect, the law is clear—animal cruelty is animal cruelty."

The penalty for first degree animal cruelty is imprisonment for up three years (or up to five years if an individual has prior convictions), and a fine of up to $5,000.

The arraignment hearing for Antolin today is at 10am at the Hagatna Superior Court. ***(PR)***

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works
2nd Floor Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION FOR BIDS
DPW18-IFB-022

SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF PARTS FOR JOHN DEERE 410G BACKHOE 4X4 ENGINE SERIAL # T041GX941305 FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, SAIPAN

Governor Ralph DIg. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids for **Supply and Delivery of Parts for John Deere 410G Backhoe 4x4 Engine Serial # T0410GX941305 for the Department of Public Works, Saipan** Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after **August 29, 2018** at Technical Services Division, Department of Public Works, located on Second Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, San Jose, Saipan. A non-refundable payment of **Fifty Dollars ($50.00)** is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Teasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the DPW Technical Services Division.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations currently in effect."

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITUES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

A **Pre-bid Conference** is not required, however, questions regarding this **IFB** must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **September 21, 2018** to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

Sealed bids must be marked **"DPW-18-IFB-022"**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascencion Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than **9:00 a.m. local time October 01, 2018**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **9:00 a.m. local time, October 01, 2018**, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **October 01, 2018** and the BID documents must be received at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **October 10, 2018.** Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascencion Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, at **9:00 a.m. local time, October 12, 2018**. However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at **9:00 a.m. local time, on October 01, 2018**.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars **($25,000.00)** a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. **Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashiers check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Surety requiring approval of the Attorney General must be pre-approved prior to bid submission.** Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations **§70-30.3-245**. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than $25,000.00. Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

a) A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
b) A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceed the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.
Acceptable assets are only:

1) Cash
2) US Gov't Securities
3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is **Sixty (60) calendar days** upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages for delays beyond the established completion date will be assessed at the rate of **One Hundred (US$100.00)** for each and every day the work is delayed beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

PETER P. CAMACHO
Acting Secretary of Public Works

HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director of Procurement & Supply

Northern Marianas Humanities Council
Navigating the Human Experience

Call for Nominations
2018 Governor's Humanities Awards

The Northern Marianas Humanities Council is accepting nominations for the 2018 Governor's Humanities Awards.

This event, held annually in October as a part of CNMI Humanities Month, recognizes outstanding contributions to the humanities by individuals and organizations in the community.

Nominees should have a notable humanities achievement in the past year, as demonstrated in any of the following four categories:

- **Research and Publication in the Humanities;**
- **Preservation of Traditional Cultural Practices;**
- **Preservation of CNMI History; and**
- **Outstanding Humanities Teacher (in both classroom and non-classroom settings).**

A fifth category, **Lifetime Achievement**, recognizes significant contributions to the humanities over multiple decades. This award may be given posthumously.

Nomination forms and instructions are available at the Council's office in the Springs Plaza Building, Gualo Rai, or on the council website at www.northernmarianashumanities.org.

Nominations may be made by any member of the general public and **are due no later than 4:30 p.m. on Friday, 12 October 2018.**

Awards will be presented in a special ceremony in October (time, date and venue to be announced).

For more information, contact council staff at 235-4785.

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IPI partners with MTEC on golf tournament

Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC partnered with the Marianas Tourism Education Council for the successful staging of the MTEC Governor's Tourism Cup last Sept. 1 at the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort.

IPI's Corporate Social Responsibility team responded to the call for partnership made by MTEC tournament director Vicky Benavente.

The IPI-CSR team took the lead with the ground preparation, including setting-up of sponsor banners, recording all KPs (keenest position) and hole-in-ones. IPI-CSR also made sure that tournament players were hydrated by ensuring that their coolers were taken care off.

MTEC, an advocacy group, promotes sustainable tourism development. Together with the Marianas Visitors Authority and the different MyWAVE Clubs in public schools, they are the beneficiaries of the Governor's Tourism Cup, which is on its third year. ***(PR)***

Marianas Visitors Authority coordinator Ed Diaz poses with Imperial Pacific International Corporate Social Responsibility staff after ensuring the successful staging of the September MTEC Governor's Tourism Cup.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Imperial Pacific International- Corporate Social Responsibility representative David Ayuyu joins fellow CSR coordinator JR Brel in setting up a sponsor banner at the sprawling Laolao Bay Golf & Resort.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO\

IPI-CSR members J.R. Brel and Tani Masga ensure that they are ready for all the needs of tournament participants.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Imperial Pacific sent its CSR team to the Sept. 1 MTEC Governor's Tourism Cup to ensure its successful staging.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

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Janice E. Castro Director, DCRM

PRESS RELEASE

Gualo Rai, Saipan – By request of CNMI permitting agencies, to ensure compliance, the Division of Coastal Resources Management has taken action to inform all current and future permittees that they must have land use permissions to engage in projects or activities at proposed site locations. For private lands, submission of proof of valid leases are required. For public lands, appropriate permission from the Department of Public Lands or, in the case of submerged lands or within Marine Protected Areas, the Department of Lands and Natural Resources, may be required. If there are any questions or concerns with this requirement, please feel free to contact our office at (670) 664-8300.

The Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality's Division of Coastal Resources Management strives to work closely with our agency partners and stakeholders at large to promote wise use and conservation of the CNMI's resources, and we thank the public for their support and feedback. Together we can support efficient resource management for current and future generations.

Faith, Hope and KARIDAT

INVITATION FOR BID

CONSTRUCTION OF PARKING LOT FOR SISTER REMEDIOS COMMUNITY CENTER

Karidat is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified vendors for the construction of a parking lot for the Sister Remedios Community Center located on Chalan Kanoa Drive in Chalan Kanoa Village, Saipan.

Scope of work is available beginning August 23, 2018 at the Karidat Administration Office at the Sister Remedios Community Center. Requests may be sent via email to Judith Pangelinan at judypangelinan@karidat.org.

Questions or requests for clarification must be in writing and addressed to Ms. Judith I. Pangelinan and may be sent via email at judypangelinan@karidat.org no later than September 14, 2018 at 4:00 PM. Response to questions will be no later than September 14, 2018 at 4:00 PM.

The Award of this project is contingent upon final approval the Karidat Board of Directors.

Bids must be placed in a sealed envelope marked "Sister Remedios Community Center Parking Lot" containing one (1) original and three (3) copies and submitted to the Karidat Administration Office at the Sister Remedios Community Center located on Chalan Kanoa Drive in Chalan Kanoa Village, Saipan, no later than September 17, 2018 at 10:00 AM, at which time the bids will be publically opened. Any bids received after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstances.

/s/ Lauri B. Ogumoro
Executive Director

/s/ Judith I. Pangelinan
Administrative Officer

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONS LICENSING BOARD
P.O. Box 502078, Bldg., 1242 Pohnpei Court
Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel No: (670) 664-4809 Fax: (670) 664-4814
Email: cnmi@cnmibpl-hcplb.net
Website: cnmibpl-hcplb.net

Pursuant to P.L. 8-41, Section 11, Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Health Care Professions Licensing Board (HCPLB) are hereby giving notice that it will hold its regular monthly board meeting on ***Thursday, September 06, 2018 at 8 am*** on Saipan. The meeting will be held at the CHCC Conference Room #2, Lower Navy Hill.

AGENDA

- **I. Meeting Call to Order**
- **II. Determination of Quorum**
- **III. Review and Adoption of Agenda**
- **IV. Review and Adoption of Minutes (07/19/18)**
- **V. Public Comments**
- **VI. Chairperson's Report**
  - Term Expiration of Board Members Ted Parker and Dr. Tiffany Willis
  - Executive Director's contract expiring on September 30, 2018
- **VII. Director's Report**
  - HCPLB Official Seal and Physician Assistant Special Provision: Prescription Privilege
  - Update on all Pending Cases
- **VIII. Investigator's Report**
- **IX. Communications from the Governor's Office & Legislature**
  - A. Governor's Office
  - B. Legislature
- **X. Old Business**
  - Associate Counselor Issue
- **XI. New Business**
- **XII. Pending Applications for Board's Review**
  - A. New Applications
  - B. Renewal Applications
- **XIII. Miscellaneous Business**
- **XIV. Executive Session:** The Board may vote to meet in executive session to consult with Counsel on pending or anticipated legal matters.
  - Case No. 18-02-2
  - Case No. 18-03-3
  - Case No. 18-06
- **XV. Announcements**
  - A. Next Meeting Date
  - B. Adjournment of Meeting

/s/ Theodore R. Parker, R.Ph., MPH
Chairman

Amata honors vets on anniversary of end of WWII

PAGO PAGO, American Samoa—Delegate Aumua Amata (R-A. Samoa) released the following statement last Thursday in honor of veterans for the 73rd anniversary of V-J Day, or Victory in the Pacific:

"On Sept. 2, 1945, the world celebrated the end of World War II, and the Allied forces celebrated victory over Imperial Japan with a document signed on the battleship U.S.S. *Missouri*. This historic occasion will be marked with a special ceremony in our nation's capital. Veterans of World War II will place wreaths at the National World War II Memorial's Freedom Wall in remembrance of the 400,000 Americans and millions throughout the world who lost their lives in World War II.

"This day is another stirring reminder of the great trust we place in our armed forces. It's a day to honor all our veterans and service members, while specially remembering those who gave so much in the 1940s to secure our freedoms. They left the world a better place, and Japan became a staunch ally and friend in the cause of freedom, peace, stability and prosperity.

"Even today in American Samoa, we have our reminders overlooking the harbor of that immense war. Still today, the people of American Samoa are doing our part, serving the country in high numbers. The military families of American Samoa have earned the right to be proud of that as we remember this important date in history." ***(PR)***

Delegate Aumua Amata (R-A. Samoa), left, is joined by other members of a congressional delegation for a photo in front of the historic Hickam flag, which was flying at the attacks marking the United States' entry into World War II and was again present on the USS *Missouri* at the close of World War II.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

SHRM CEO to headline NMI chapter meeting

Johnny C. Taylor Jr., president and chief executive officer of the Society for Human Resource Management, will be the keynote speaker of the CNMI SHRM general membership meeting this month.

This will be the first time in two decades that the organization's national president will visit the CNMI.

This meeting will be held at Pacific Island Club Saipan's Charley's Cabaret today, Sept. 5, 2018, beginning at 12pm. It is open to the public.

The presentation includes the PIC lunch buffet at a cost of $20 for SHRM members and $30 for non-members.

Seats are limited, so reserve your seat by contacting Penny Jones by e-mail at penelope.jones@hyatt.com or Denise Montenegro at denise.montenegro@hyatt.com or by telephone at 323-5867/68. ***(SHRM)***

Weightlifting Federation meeting on Saturday

The CNMI Weightlifting Federation invites all persons interested in the sport of weightlifting to an open meeting to be held on Saturday, Sept. 8, 2018, starting at 10:30am at the NMPASI conference room in Gualo Rai, Saipan. Discussion at the meeting will focus on plans, ideas, and goals for the promotion and participation of CNMI weightlifters in upcoming international weightlifting competitions and the 2021 Micro Games.

For more information, contact John Davis at 789-9211 or by email at johnhdavisjr@gmail.com or Jeanne Rayphand at 287-9807 or by email at jeanneesq@yahoo.com. ***(PR)***

CHamoru commission meetings in Sept., Oct.

The Kumisión i Fino' CHamoru yan i Fina'nå'guen i Historia yan i Lina'la' i Taotao Tåno' *(Commission on CHamoru Language and the Teaching of the History and Culture of the Indigenous People of Guam)* will have its September and October monthly meetings on Thursday, Sept. 13 and 27 and Oct. 11 and 25, from 12:30pm to 3pm at the Department of Parks and Recreation Paseo conference room in Hagåtña. Agenda items include but are not limited to: approval of minutes, reports from the chair, vice chair, secretary and committee chairs, financial matters, orthography revisions, and strategic plans and implementation activities. Work sessions will also be held on Thursdays, Sept. 6 and 20 and Oct. 4 and 18, from 12:30pm to 3pm at the same venue.

For more information contact Kumisión chair/Gé'hilo' Hope Alvarez Cristobal at 483-0097 or secretary/Sikritåria Rosa Salas Palomo at 727-5522. ***(PR)***

SCC monthly meeting today

The monthly meeting of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce is scheduled for today, Sept. 5, 2018, at Kanoa Resort. Guest speakers will be Alex A. Sablan of the Northern Marianas Business Alliance Corp.; Arielle Buyum, executive director of Latte Training Academy; and updates on the Junior Achievement Program Advisory Council. Lunch will begin at 11:30am and the meeting will follow promptly at 12pm. For reservations of six or more, call (670) 234-7150. ***(PR)***

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STK#U18-076R
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STK#U18-038T
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NOW $28,699*

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Opinion

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EDITORIAL

Parents beware: Russian trolls sought to sow vaccine discord

Measles cases have surged in Europe, with experts blaming the rise in infections on a drop in the number of people getting vaccinated. In Minnesota, there was a measles outbreak last year. Now, a medical journal article reports that trolls pushed divisive vaccine safety information on social media over three years the authors studied. The objective wasn't necessarily to get fewer U.S. parents to vaccinate their kids, but to sow division among Americans.

"Weaponized Health Communication" is how the authors of the new American Journal of Public Health analysis summed up the online efforts to sow doubts about the immunizations that prevent measles, diphtheria, whooping cough and other serious childhood diseases. "Weaponized" is not an exaggeration.

What researchers found is that Twitter users linked to a Russian "troll farm" pushed both pro- and anti-vaccine views on the social media platform from 2014 to 2017. "Accounts masquerading as legitimate users create false equivalency, eroding public consensus on vaccination," according to the authors.

The mission wasn't necessarily to get fewer Americans to vaccinate their kids. Instead, Russians identified vaccines as a topic they could use to further divide this nation.

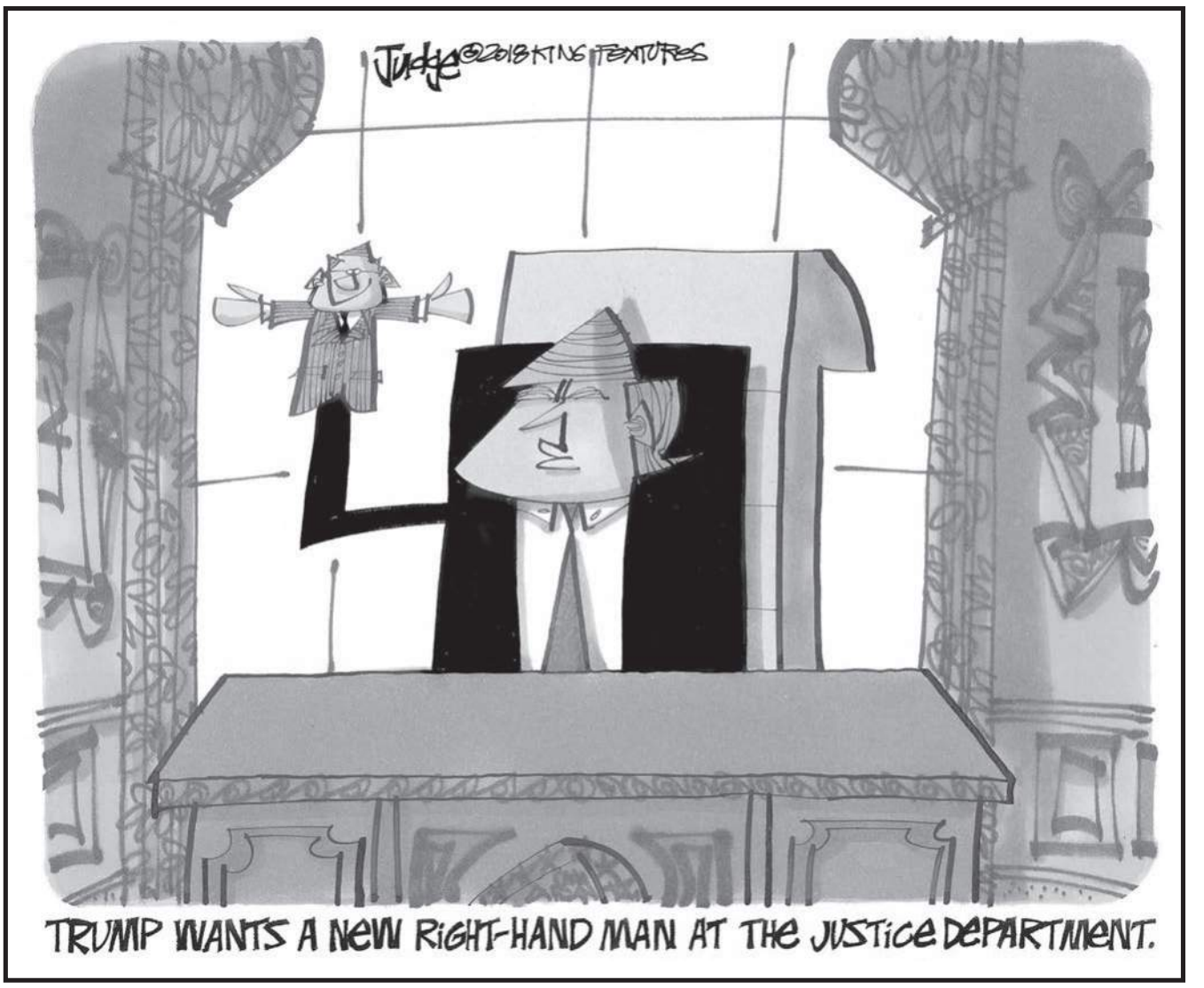
Other Russian social media propaganda has attempted to leverage class or race—online trolls tried to exploit Philando Castile's 2016 death at the hands of a Minnesota police officer, for example—for the same reason. A nation is weakened when its citizens turn against each other instead of standing united against outside enemies.

Researchers also found that Twitter bots spreading malicious software used inflammatory anti-vaccine statements as "clickbait." Those sucked in by these reckless claims may have allowed malware onto their computers when they opened a hyperlink.

As alarming as this is, the collateral damage to public health is the more immediate danger. This propaganda builds upon disinformation already spread by vaccine conspiracy theorists. Amplifying this harmful fearmongering may have convinced more parents to forgo childhood immunizations. In turn, that opens the door for these diseases to make a comeback, putting others in harm's way—such as individuals with compromised immune systems or babies who haven't yet had the full series of shots.

The authors of the American Journal of Public Health study understandably call for additional research to better understand how medical providers can combat vaccine myths. But parents also need to step up, especially when

See PARENTS on Next Page



The unsettling truth about the first little piggy

By ERIC ZORN
Chicago Tribune

It had been many years since I'd thought of the five little piggies, protagonists of the first nursery rhyme I told my kids, the first nursery rhyme I heard and probably the first nursery rhyme my parents heard.

My children are young adults now, but back before they could walk, my wife and I would take their little bare feet in our hands as they lay in their cribs, wiggle each toe in succession starting with the big toe and ... say it with me:

"This little piggy went to market, this little piggy stayed home, this little piggy had roast beef, this little piggy had none and this little piggy ..." the pinkie toe, voice rising to falsetto, "... cried wee wee wee all the way home."

Tickles. Giggles. Repeat.

It always struck me as a little weird that a pig would be eating roast beef. Is there no solidarity in the barnyard? But pigs are, in fact, omnivores. In 2012, according to news reports, they ate a 69-year-old farmer in Oregon after he fell in their pen.

Then the other day I was browsing my Twitter feed when I saw a posting from @AngelicGirlxD that changed everything: "I'm 22 years old," she wrote Aug. 20, "and I just realized that 'This little piggy went to ... market' doesn't mean he went food shopping."

Ye gods. Of course! All these years I'd had in my mind's eye the image of a pig standing on two feet, a hat on its head and a basket under its "arm," waddling off to the grocery store to purchase edibles: apples. Carrots. Grain. Farmer-flavored biscuits.

But no. Obviously, no. I'm 60 years old, and I just realized that the fattest little piggy—the big toe—was being sold into slaughter. It went to the market, sure, but it never came back.

Many of the best-loved nursery rhymes have dark elements. Peter Peter Pumpkin Eater "couldn't keep" his wife so he "put her in a pumpkin shell, and there he kept her very well" in domestic servitude and bondage.

Georgie Porgie "kissed the girls and made them cry," making him the central villain in numerous #MeToo stories.

"Goosey Goosey Gander" takes a grim turn and becomes fodder for a PBS documentary about elder abuse and religious violence when the narrator meets "an old man who wouldn't say his prayers" and accordingly takes "him by the left leg" and throws him "down the stairs."

And for potentially life-threatening injuries, you can't beat the hapless infant's plunge from the treetop at the end of "Rock-a-Bye Baby."

In contrast, the piggies from the rhyme that dates back several hundred years, always seemed like a merry lot. Sure, one stayed home, and one, for some reason, did not eat roast beef. But the wee-wee-wee was a squeal of porcine delight at the prospect of returning to the sty, right?

Yet the fate of the biggest oinker was always there in plain sight. It didn't go to market, it was taken to be marketed. It had no agency. It was a product, not a customer.

Wee-wee-wee becomes the fearful yet ultimately fruitless cry of a creature that realizes it, too, was born to be sold and eaten.

This may be why some more sensitive souls have posted revisions that avoid the uncomfortable topic of butchery: "This little piggy ate blueberries/ This little piggy ate cheese ... " for example.

@AngelicGirlxD—her profile says she's from Brooklyn—was not the first to post on this topic. I searched and found several piggy truther discussion threads over the years. But her tweet has gone viral and so far prompted more than 3,000 responses, many of them anguished:

"My whole childhood was a lie." "I hate my newfound knowledge; ignorance was better." "I don't even know what's real anymore." "You've just made me very sad." "He died?!?!! Noooooooooooo!" And so on.

I posted click polls to Facebook and Twitter to try to measure reaction to this observation. On both platforms, only 18 percent of some 200 respondents claimed to have known that the first pig in the rhyme was not, in sad fact, off to pick up a few things at the store but instead was off to meet its maker. In comments, some have blamed illustrators of children's books for perpetuating the happier interpretation.

The results mean that, although 100 percent of you will find this topic trivial in light of all that is going on in the world, more than 80 percent of you will nevertheless find it relevant. As for me, when I have grandchildren, that first little piggy is going to go to Aldi.

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Presisu na areglu

I suprimu na kotten Marianas ha punu` hatsadan 80 pot sientu para offisiales siha guine. Ha apunta klaru na ti matatiye i ginagagau na areglu gi papa` pettinenti na probision konstitusion.

Na ti man-manhula` para uma-onra letran i konstitusion yan lai i tanu`? Manu na kañada `nai man-abag hamyu gi ti maput na finu` Eñglis? Taya` eskusu che`chu ignorante guine na asuntu!

Mauleg ta rehistra hamyu gi NMC ya in` chili` English 93 sino 94 pot manaitai yan mañgge`. Dios mihu!

Programa: I Medicaid—ayudun apas hospitat para i mamopble--siña ma-utut gi otru sakan. Kontodu Obamacare guaha planu para umaribaha `sino utut enteramiente.

Tihu tuñgu` kuantu gi tautau-ta mangaige gi katkuet programa. I fondun Medicaid para Marianas ennau i $13 miyon gi sakan. Mauleg sa` guaha tumagam i asuntu para umasusteni siakassu na maliñgu fondun federat.

Makat na obligasion gi halum tagpapa` na suetdu ni magagana ni kase 15-mit na empleau gi enteru atkipelago. Rimulinu gi apas kau utilidat, neñkanu` pat apas hospitat `nai ni unu soplu gi todu tres obligasion.

Kandidatu: Kada kabayeru ha atan finaposña deste ke ha deklarague` kandidatu. Megai besis `nai ha atan papa` apuya`ña yan solu kuestion: Mangana-yu` mohon? Taya` ineppi mina kulan nubladun mapagahes gi halum hinassoña tula noche.

Animu i prohimu macho`chu` diariu mañgombensi botadot. Guaha klaru na ineppi, guaha pot para un` dinispacha ensegidas, yan guaha nukeru-gue`. Patte este na mattiru guine na offisiu. Lau yangin guaha botasion pa`gu, siempre ta tuñgu` haf` i resutta kontodu kau inatbola hau ni botadot.

Kanset: Na`chatsaga na ripot pot man-hoben (17 añus para papa`) ni man-nina`ye chenot kanset. I 18 na famaguon mampus megai na numeru pot kanset. Debi CHC u petsige estudiu haf` tinateña este kontodu simiyan daibitis.

I sigundu aminasu (daibitis) anog na `nai sige mona i pahariyan natibu menus ha lagnus mafanana`an "insulin" ni yumayag neñkanu` yan asukat gi halum haga`ta. Hafa umafuetsas finatsu gi pahariyan natibu? Mauleg uma-estudia lokue` este yan rekomendasion haf` satbasionta ginen este na aminasu.

Na`chatsaga lokue` i sige ha` ma-umenta numerun tautau-ta ni dispues man-matai rehiñion niha. Uttimoña makina (daialasis) muna` gagasgas haga` niha pot lumenus tres dias gi semana. Makat na chenot `nai todu ha utut diariu na pinetsigen tautau-ta siha.

Relihion: In` hassu estorian i biblia `nai malofan i Saina gi kantun tasi ha espipiha haye para u koni` para apostolesña? Ha ayeg i mas mamopble na peskadot yan lancheru. Ha tagu` lokue` na u polu todu guinahan niha yangin para umadalalag.

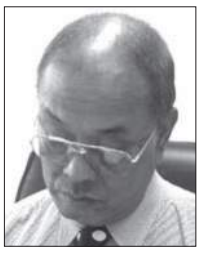
Repara i klasen tautau ni ha ayeg. Ni unu afamau, riku pat tatkilu` puestoña. I mas manbahu na tautague ha konii`. Man-hanau dispues para un` hogsu` `nai ha tutuhun fumanague haf` finatoña kumu lahen Yuus Tata.

Dos lini`e-hu ginen este na disision: hinimiddi yan yine`ase`. Atan i prohimu-mu kumu tautau ya unna` geftau hau yangin gai chinatsaga. I mas manbahu ha ayeg yan hafana`gue kumu apostolesña ni mañaunau gi finana`guen tinagu` Yuus Tata. Appottunidat para i pepble umadelantague`.

Este asuntun karitatibun tautau ti ayu i mafattu ginen hiyuñg tat kumu nina`en atuñgu` fina` suette. Gaige sustansia-mu gi korason-mu. Poresu na gi hilu` pinasensia atan maisa hau kau enfin gasgas intensionmu.

Gaige todu sustansia-mu gi disision ginen korason-mu. I ginen halum mas presisu! De hemunus de galun gi tatautau-mu! In` hassu `nai mattu i Saina yan man-apostoles ya mañena sin mafagase kanai niha? Puntu? Ti bali gasgas kanaimu `an aplacha korasonmu!

Obligasion: Man-mafana`gue hit pot i Saina deste dottrina kontodu halum guma` familia ni mañaina-ta. Diberas, kuattru añus dumimu-yu limisayu yan mañeluhu.



By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the* Saipan Tribune.

Obligasion finana`gue gaige giya hagu pa`gu kumu saina. Na guaha tiempu para un` adelanta linala` espirituat gi famaguonmu pot para u fan eyag gasgas na disposision.

Ti apasiyun na benefisiu para i patgun i ha fondu añklan espirituat kumu fitme na achu` konsensiaña yan ma`lag na luserun ha`aniña.

Sinparat: Sessu un` ñietun diñga` ha soda`yu` mananaitai pat mamañgge` gi komputa gi barandan. Sen manrepara na patgon. Un` talo`ane hafaisenyu` haf` na todu i tiempu gaige suabe na dandan mientras mananaitai pat mamañgge`yu`.

Hu esplika na kulan para u esgaihon muna` katma yan pasifiku hinasog-hu kosake siña baili`e klaru haf` i asuntu gi menahu. Fitme na eksisiu gi pa`gu manana si Yuus ni hu tutuhun gi tinayuyot diariu. Dispues `nai hu tutuhun manaita gaseta yan otru siha asuntu. Hu ayeg haf` impottante para bai analisa duranten hinanau ha`ane. Esta lagse` este giya guahu na eksisiu.

Linau: Siña ha` ti in` repara lau Japon ha nanañgga i mas dañkulu na linau. `An pañgpañg lamegai para u fan pininu` mientras i destrosiu dañkulu. Tihu tuñgu` kau u danchi hit este na linau pot gai chinagu` yan Marianas. Lau i destrosiu seguru na ha affekta metkau bisita sin ditension.

Instead of blaming immigration for Mollie Tibbetts' death, blame misogyny

"Don't talk to strangers," we tell our daughters when they are little. "Look both ways when you cross the road." Later, we will warn them about the unintended consequences of alcohol and drugs, and unprotected sex. We will encourage them to feel confident and stand up for themselves, but exercise caution and avoid unfamiliar places after dark. Our society will urge them to heed the advice of doctors and maybe clergy, their parents and grandparents.

Meanwhile, bit by bit, we see the value of those lessons diminish.

It is likely none of those standard admonitions could have saved Mollie Tibbetts, whose body was found in an Iowa cornfield after she had gone out for an evening jog and was followed. We know from history that that simple act of running, which enhances women's strength and independence, can also make them vulnerable.

Police believe they have the murderer, Cristhian Bahena Rivera, an undocumented immigrant who worked for Yarrabee Farms. Authorities have released no information on whether Tibbetts was sexually assaulted, but every 98 seconds in the U.S., someone is, according to the Huffington Post. Tibbetts was a college student and female, making her a member of a group three times more likely than women in general to fall victim.

In 1992, after 21-year-old Grinnell College student Tammy Zywicki was found murdered and sexually assaulted on her way back to college from her New Jersey home, I remember thinking how low the odds were that some sexual predator would be driving along the same route as hers and get access to her. Now I know better. More than 570 people are victims of sexual violence every day in this country. It can happen anywhere, any time.

It has happened on an Iowa doctor's examining table and during outings with priests. It has happened on an overnight visit to grandparents. In those cases, there is often more than one culprit involved. Maybe the staffer who covered it up or made excuses. Maybe the bishop. Maybe even the grandmother. Enablers help 99 percent of perpetrators walk free.

A year after Zywicki's murder, the body of a 36-year-old woman who had been moving to Des Moines from Denver for a supervisory job was found in a Des Moines area hotel. Once again, it underscored our precarious footing as women in a world dotted with unforeseeable risks.

"In the march for equal rights between the sexes, women's safety remains an arena of profound sexual inequality," I wrote in a column published Aug. 27, 1993, "a realm where inroads made by women in work and political office find no reflection. Threats to safety are a growing fact of life for everyone, but are an integral part of the way women experience the world. No woman is immune to assault, at home or on the street, in public places or in private ones."

But now, rather than focus on reducing violence against women, some top Republicans from President Donald Trump to Gov. Kim Reynolds to U.S. Sen. Joni Ernst have another agenda. They rushed to blame Rivera's immigration status. His employers, who are deeply involved in Iowa agribusiness, claimed his legal status had been verified, but later said he had presented false credentials. It's conceivable they didn't vet him properly or that they knew and hired him anyway, much like managers at the Agriprocessors meat-packing plant in Postville were accused of doing before the 2008 raid there.

Notice how after every mass shooting, some top Republicans are in a hurry to deny the proliferation of guns was in any way responsible. But in Rivera's case, they're in a big hurry to blame illegal immigrants as a group. There is political currency in conflating the lack of a visa with violence, even though studies show undocumented immigrants commit no more violent crimes than the native-born population. A 2016 study published in the Journal of Ethnicity in Criminal Justice showed the U.S. immigrant population rose 118 percent from 1980 through 2016 but the rate of violent crimes fell by 36 percent.

A U.S. Department of Justice report released in January found only 5.6 percent of inmates in federal, state and local prisons are foreign-born. And that includes people like me, a U.S. citizen who was a legal immigrant before being naturalized. Together, the foreign born are 13 percent of the U.S. population.

To their immense credit, some members of Tibbetts' family used Facebook to criticize efforts to whip up hatred of immigrants over their tragedy. Billie Jo Calderwood, whom Vox reported is a relative of Tibbetts, posted, "Please remember, Evil comes in EVERY color." And later, "Please do not compound the atrocity of what happened to her by adding racism and hate to the equation."

The sister of Iowan Cara McGrane who was killed during the 1992 Drake Diner shootings in Des Moines posted last week about how her family had not bought into calls for the death penalty after that shooting. And Molly McGrane wrote, "there is never a time to generalize against any group of people."

We can, however, make some generalizations about the violence against women that poisons our communities. We can work together to uproot it so that hurting females becomes not just illegal but culturally unacceptable. We must replace it with cultures of empathy and compassion. And when someone shows signs of trouble, we must intervene before it's too late.

Then, someday, we will have truly honored Mollie and Drew and Lyric and Kathlynn and Jodi and Ashley and Anna Marie and all the other women who may have done everything we told them, but still had no chance.

By REKHA BASU
Des Moines Register

Rekha Basu is a columnist for the Des Moines Register. *Readers may send her email at rbasu@dmreg.com.*

PARENTS

From Page 12

their kids' health is at stake.

Not all sources of information are equal. Medical providers and organizations such as the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention are credible sources on vaccines. Unverified Twitter users such as @EllaWonderGirl or @GayleHappyMom—two accounts recently identified as Russian trolls on a list released by the U.S. Congress—are not.

Embracing this basic truth when it comes to vaccines and other issues is more important than ever. Vetting information has become a vital inoculation in itself, protecting against those aiming to put public health at risk.

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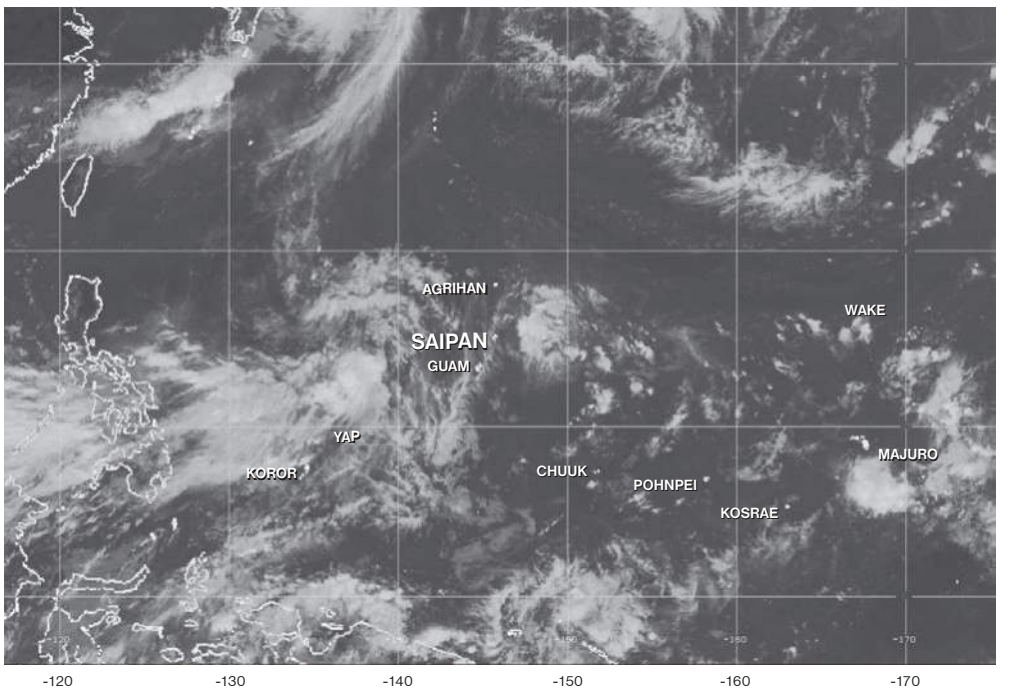
The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Light and variable winds.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲89° ▼78°	▲ 90° ▼78°	▲90° ▼78°	▲90° ▼78°	▲90° ▼78°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 5:42 AM, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2018
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Little change was made to the forecast of light winds and isolated thunderstorms through Wed, with only isolated showers thereafter. With the light winds, isolated island thunderstorms are possible each afternoon, especially over Guam. Seas have fallen to around 5 feet, and a slow decline should continue the rest of the week.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorm	85° / 78°
Palau	Thunderstorm	83° / 77°
Yap	Thunderstorm	84° / 79°
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy	85° / 79°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorm	86° / 75°
Kosrae	Thunderstorm	86° / 75°
Majuro	Thunderstorm	85° / 79°

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Partly Cloudy	59° / 46°
Beijing	Sunny	82° / 63°
Hong Kong	Thunderstorm	88° / 81°
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	88° / 77°
London	Partly Cloudy	68° / 52°
Los Angeles	Sunny	80° / 66°
Manila	Thunderstorm	86° / 79°
Melbourne	Showers	66° / 43°
Miami	Thunderstorm	88° / 79°
New York	Mostly Sunny	88° / 77°
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	88° / 75°
Paris	Thunderstorm	81° / 59°
Busan	Partly Cloudy	81° / 73°
Rome	Sunny	84° / 63°
Salem	Partly Cloudy	88° / 71°
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	65° / 56°
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	82° / 68°
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	88° / 73°
Washington, DC	Mostly Sunny	92° / 76°

NMI CRIME STOPPERS
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
1:54 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.77
9:31 AM	LOW TIDE	-0.11
4:49 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.71
9:56 PM	LOW TIDE	1.17

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:04 AM	6:26 PM
Thursday	6:04 AM	6:25 PM
Friday	6:04 AM	6:25 PM
Saturday	6:05 AM	6:24 PM
Sunday	6:05 AM	6:23 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	12:11 AM	1:24 PM	-
Thursday	1:07 AM	2:24 PM	-
Friday	2:07 AM	3:24 PM	-
Saturday	3:09 AM	4:22 PM	-
Sunday	5:15 AM	6:08 PM	-

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 6, 2018

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA117	8:45am	9:30am	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

7C3451	3:10am	6:10am	1, 7
7C3451	4:00am	7:05am	4, 5

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

TW308	2:00am	6:05am	Daily
OZ626	2:10am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
LJ652	3:40am	7:30am	1, 4, 5, 7
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	5:40am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)

JD396	7:30am	12:00pm	1
JD396	4:50pm	10:00pm	4

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:10am	10:55am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	10:55am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	9:00am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	8:10am	7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via GUM
UA6398/183	6:05pm	9:40pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA6398/183	6:05pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6398/193	6:05pm	11:50pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

HX077	1:50am	5:15am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UO43	5:45am	8:40am	1, 3, 5, 7
UA6398/159	6:05pm	11:00pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA117	7:00am	7:45am	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

7C3452	9:00pm	2:10am+1	4
7C3452	9:05pm	2:10am+1	3, 6, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
OZ625	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
TW307	7:45pm	1:00am+1	Daily
OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
LJ651	9:10pm	2:40am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:20pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN

JD395	8:25am	3:30pm	4
JD395	9:55pm	5:00am+1	7

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:25pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA182/6395	12:40am	8:05am	3, 6 via GUM
UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:25pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:25pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/UA6395	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA192/6395	10:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA184/6395	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
HX076	5:15pm	12:15am+1	3, 7
UO42	6:50pm	1:45am+1	7
UO42	9:30pm	4:25am+1	2, 4, 6
UA116/6395	11:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, LJ Jin Air, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The* Saipan Tribune *is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

Business

On Labor Day, Trump slams union leader who criticized him

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Donald Trump started his Labor Day with an attack on a top union leader, lashing out after criticism from AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka.

Trump tweeted Monday that Trumka "represented his union poorly on television this weekend." He added: "It is easy to see why unions are doing so poorly. A Dem!"

The president's attack came after Trumka appeared on "Fox News Sunday" over the weekend where he said efforts to overhaul the North American Free Trade Agreement should include Canada. Trumka, whose organization is an umbrella group for most unions, said the economies of the United States, Canada and Mexico are "integrated" and "it's pretty hard to see how that would work without having Canada in the deal."

Trump said Saturday on Twitter that there was "no political necessity" to keep Canada in NAFTA. But it's questionable whether Trump can unilaterally exclude Canada from a deal to replace the three-nation NAFTA agreement, without the approval of Congress. Any such move would likely face lengthy legal and congressional challenges.

Trump administration negotiations to keep Canada in the reimagined trade bloc are to resume this week as Washington and Ottawa try to break a deadlock over issues such as Canada's dairy market and U.S. efforts to shield drug companies from generic competition.

Trump wants to get a trade deal finalized by Dec. 1.

Trumka also said of Trump: "The things that he's done to hurt workers outpace what he's done to help workers," arguing that Trump has not come through with an infrastructure program and has overturned regulations that "will hurt us on the job."

Asked about the low unemployment rate and economic growth, Trumka said "those are good, but wages have been down since the first of the year. Gas prices have been up since the first of the year. So, overall, workers aren't doing as well."

BUSINESS BRIEFS

75 hotel workers arrested at Labor Day protest in California

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—San Francisco police arrested 75 hotel workers protesting outside the J. W. Marriott's Westin St. Francis hotel on Labor Day for blocking a street in one of the city's busiest tourist areas. About 900 Marriott hotel workers demonstrated Monday at Union Square as they consider a vote to authorize a strike, said Unite Here Local 2 spokesman Ted Waechter. He said 8,000 workers in more than 50 hotels in San Francisco and six other North American cities are working without a contract. Waechter says many hotel workers hold two jobs to support their families and their salaries have increased only by 7 percent in a decade. A Marriott spokesman said the hotel has a longstanding and productive relationship with Unite Here and is negotiating in good faith. San Francisco Police spokeswoman Officer Grace Gatpandan said those arrested face misdemeanor charges of failing to obey a police officer.

Kushner Cos. unpaid NYC fines: $500K and counting

NEW YORK (AP)—The Kushner family real estate firm has amassed over half a million dollars in unpaid fines for various New York City sanitation and building violations, much of that bill incurred while President Donald Trump's son-in-law and adviser Jared Kushner was running the company. City figures compiled for The Associated Press by a tenant watchdog group show that most of the fines—$350,000—stretched over the past five years. And just last month the company was fined $210,000 for filing false construction documents. The hundreds of violations in dozens of its buildings ranged from the seemingly minor—"loose rubbish"—to the serious, such as not getting permits for electrical work or failing to notify authorities of work that could disturb asbestos. Most of the fines were for a few hundred dollars apiece. But in many cases the company failed to show up for required court hearings, triggering additional penalty fines atop interest payments that allowed the bill to grow. "This is a company that will cut corners at any cost, even if it comes at the expense of its residents and the rule of law," said Aaron Carr, executive director of Housing Rights Initiative, which compiled the data.

China's JD.com founder returns to Beijing after US arrest

BEIJING (AP)—A Chinese e-commerce giant says its billionaire founder, Liu Qiangdong, has returned to China after his arrest in the U.S. on suspicion of criminal sexual conduct. Zhang Shuhan, a JD.com official, said Monday by phone that "Liu Qiangdong has been released without charges and he is now back in China." Also known as Richard Liu, the founder of the Beijing-based e-commerce site was arrested in Minneapolis late Friday on suspicion of criminal sexual conduct, according to Hennepin County Jail records. Liu, 45, was released Saturday afternoon pending possible criminal charges. The jail records don't provide details of the alleged incident.

Washington state finds labor violations at pizza franchise

OLYMPIA, Wash. (AP)—Washington state has issued $42,000 in fines to a Lakewood-based Little Caesars Pizza franchisee after finding violations of youth labor laws. The Olympian reports the state Department of Labor and Industries investigated two of the franchisee's restaurants in University Place between December 2017 and February 2018. According to the department, the restaurants allowed minors to work during school hours, work past 10 p.m. on school nights, and "to work too many hours without a rest period on more than 100 separate occasions." The department also claimed the restaurants allowed a teenage worker to use equipment prohibited to minors. NW Caesars 1 LLC is appealing the fines. An appeal hearing is scheduled for November. According to the state, the franchisee was also fined for similar violations in 2015.

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Nation

Trump attacks Sessions, suggests DOJ hurt GOP in midterms

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Donald Trump escalated his attacks on Attorney General Jeff Sessions on Monday, suggesting the Department of Justice put Republicans in midterm jeopardy with recent indictments of two GOP congressmen.

In his latest broadside against the Justice Department's traditional independence, Trump tweeted that "Obama era investigations, of two very popular Republican Congressmen were brought to a well publicized charge, just ahead of the Mid-Terms, by the Jeff Sessions Justice Department."

He added: "Two easy wins now in doubt because there is not enough time. Good job Jeff....."

The president's striking suggestion that the Justice Department consider politics when making decisions showed his disregard for the agency's independence. Trump has frequently suggested he views Justice less as a law enforcement agency and more as a department that is supposed to do his personal and political bidding. Still, investigators are never supposed to take into account the political affiliations of the people they investigate.

Trump, who did not address the specifics of the charges, did not name the Republicans. But he was apparently referring to the first two Republicans to endorse him in the GOP presidential primaries. Both were indicted on separate charges last month: Rep. Duncan Hunter of California on charges that included spending campaign funds for personal expenses and Rep. Chris Collins of New York on insider trading. Both have proclaimed their innocence.

The Hunter investigation began in June 2016, according to the indictment. The indictment into Collins lays out behavior from 2017. He was also under investigation by congressional ethics officials.

Hunter has not exited his race, while Collins ended his re-election bid days after his indictment. Both seats appear likely to remain in GOP hands, but the charges have raised Democratic hopes.

A spokeswoman for Sessions declined comment, and the White House did not immediately respond to a request for comment. Trump did not have any public events Monday. He briefly exited the White House to a waiting motorcade, but then went back inside without going anywhere.

Trump's tweet drew a scolding from Sen. Ben Sasse, a Nebraska Republican who sits on the Senate Judiciary Committee.

"The United States is not some banana republic with a two-tiered system of justice—one for the majority party and one for the minority party," Sasse said in a statement. "These two men have been charged with crimes because of evidence, not because of who the President was when the investigations began. Instead of commenting on ongoing investigations and prosecutions, the job of the President of the United States is to defend the Constitution and protect the impartial administration of justice."

Trump has previously pressed Sessions to investigate his perceived enemies and has accused Sessions of failing to take control of the Justice Department. Trump has also repeatedly complained publicly and privately over Sessions' decision to recuse himself from the federal investigation into possible collusion between the Trump campaign and Russia because he'd worked on Trump's campaign.

AP

President Donald Trump waves to members of the media after arriving on Air Force One, Friday, Aug. 31, 2018 at Andrews Air Force Base in Md. Watching is Air Force Col. Samuel Chesnut.

Sexual harassment complaints strain human rights agencies

HARTFORD, Conn. (AP)—A wave of sexual harassment complaints that accompanied the #MeToo movement is straining many of the state and local offices tasked with policing workplace discrimination of all kinds.

Places such as New York City and Massachusetts have added resources to deal with the surge in complaints, but human rights agencies elsewhere say their small staffs are struggling to keep up with growing caseloads.

In Connecticut, which is on pace to receive nearly twice as many sexual harassment complaints as last year, some lawmakers worry about delays resolving those cases and others involving employment, housing and credit discrimination.

"If someone has gotten up the strength to come forward, I don't want that strength to be dissipated because of a system that's broken," state Sen. Mae Flexer said.

Flexer pushed unsuccessful legislation this year that would have given the state Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities funding to help fill empty positions, extended the deadline for victims to file complaints and required more companies to provide sexual harassment training.

Connecticut had 158 sexual harassment complaints filed in all of last year. Over the first six months of 2018, CHRO received 131, records show. An agency spokeswoman says the uptick has not gotten to an "onerous level" yet, and that the staff is working hard to get cases out between a year and a year and a half. But Michelle Dumas Keuler acknowledges there's been "a constant decline of staff" over the past decade.

As in many places, the complaints began piling up last year, when the movement against sexual harassment and assault took off after allegations against former Hollywood mogul Harvey Weinstein.

The state offices that enforce laws concerning various types of discrimination differ in their authority and scope of responsibility. For example, Connecticut's human rights referees can award back pay and damages for emotional distress and attorneys' fees to those employees who choose to use the system. In many states, complainants are required to file first with these agencies, even if they eventually bring their case to court—a process that can take years. Numerous cities and counties also have commissions on civil rights, human rights and fair housing.

Connecticut attorney Nina T. Pirrotti, who specializes in employee rights cases, says she has personally seen an uptick in sexual harassment cases in her law practice since the relatively recent resurgence of the #MeToo movement, which was founded over a decade ago by Tarana Burke, a New York civil rights activist.

"If my experience is any reflection of the larger picture, I would not be surprised if the CHRO has also experienced an increase in the number of sexual harassment cases it processes," she said, adding how there could be an additional strain on CHRO resources particularly in situations where employees are self-represented, or pro se, and are more likely to remain with the CHRO throughout its investigation, fact-finding and public hearing phases. For employees represented by a lawyer, they often go through just the early stages of processing the complaint with CHRO before dealing with the matter in court or settling it.

ACROSS THE NATION

Child killed by float in Colorado parade

WINDSOR, Colo. (AP)—Colorado police say an 8-year-old boy has died after being struck by a float during a Labor Day parade. The incident happened during the Windsor Harvest Festival parade about 20 miles (30 kilometers) southeast of Fort Collins. Authorities and witnesses say the boy was a participant on a church-sponsored float and the incident occurred near the end of the parade route. The boy's name was not immediately released. Todd Vess of Windsor Severance Fire Rescue says it wasn't immediately clear whether he fell from the float or was walking beside the float when he was struck. The parade was canceled as emergency personnel treated and transported the child to a hospital where he died. No other details were immediately released. The incident remained under investigation.

8 wounded in gunfire at California apartment complex

SAN BERNARDINO, Calif. (AP)—Eight people were wounded, two critically, during a shooting at a California apartment complex during a dice game, police said Monday. Officers arrived at a chaotic scene on Sunday night and had to call for help after a hostile crowd emerged from the complex, San Bernardino police spokeswoman Sadie Albers said. She said investigators are still trying to determine how the shooting unfolded, what preceded it and whether there was an exchange of gunfire. "Most of the witnesses are being uncooperative, so we're not really sure what happened prior to the shooting," she said. Evidence at the scene showed handguns and rifles were used, police have said. Seven adults and a 17-year-old boy at the complex were shot. Albers said the 17-year-old and one adult were critically wounded. The six other victims had wounds that were not life-threatening and were expected to survive. Police have said there is gang activity in the area, but it's too early in the investigation to attribute the shooting to gang rivalry.

Milwaukee police find girl, 3, who was abducted at gunpoint

MILWAUKEE (AP)—Milwaukee authorities say a 3-year-old girl who was abducted at gunpoint from her home on the city's north side was found safe about seven hours later. Police say Phoenix "Mariah" Dickens was found unharmed about 9:45 a.m. Monday. No arrests have been made. Authorities say the child was taken around 2:30 a.m. from her home by two men who fled in a red van and a dark-colored sedan with tinted windows. Police issued an Amber Alert. The child's father, Mario Dickens, told WITI-TV that police did a "great job" in finding his daughter and the family was "excited to get to her." Police have not provided a motive in the abduction.

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Asia

Duterte calls Hitler 'insane' at Israeli Holocaust memorial

JERUSALEM (AP)—Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte, who once compared himself favorably to Adolf Hitler, paid a solemn visit to Israel's national Holocaust memorial on Monday, branding the Nazi leader "insane" as he lamented the genocide of 6 million Jews.

The comments marked a dramatic turnaround for Duterte, who just two years ago had compared his anti-drug campaign to the Holocaust and said he would be "happy to slaughter" 3 million addicts. He later apologized.

Duterte, known for his profane outbursts and accused of committing widespread human rights abuses, spoke quietly and respectfully during his stop at the Yad Vashem memorial. He said the Holocaust should never be repeated and that "despots" have no place in the modern world.

"I could not imagine a country obeying an insane leader, and I could not ever fathom the spectacle of the human being going into a killing spree, murdering old men, women and children. I hope this will not happen again," he said.

"There is always a lesson to learn: that despots and leaders who show insanity, they should be disposed of at the first instance," he said.

AP

Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte and his daughter Sara lay a wreath during a memorial ceremony at the Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial in Jerusalem, Monday, Sept 3, 2018.

Duterte, the first Philippine president to visit Israel, has received a warm welcome from the government, despite criticism that it is embracing a leader accused of rights abuses in his deadly crackdown on drug dealers.

The agenda reportedly is expected to include an arms sale to the Philippines. Israel agreed in the past to sell assault rifles to the Philippines national police force.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu remarked Monday on the countries' long friendship. He said the Philippines took in Jewish refugees after World War II and was the only Asian nation to vote for Israel's establishment. He noted that Filipino health aides now assist the elderly in Israel, including Netanyahu's father.

"We remember our friends, and that friendship has blossomed over the years and especially over the last few years," Netanyahu told Duterte. "There has been a remarkable phenomenon in Israel where thousands and thousands of families have taken heart from the support given by Filipino caretakers for the elderly."

Duterte thanked Israel for hosting some 28,000 Filipino workers and for assisting his country in times of need.

"We share the same passion for peace. We share the same passion for human beings. But also we share the same passion of not allowing our country to be destroyed by those who have the corrupt ideology, who know nothing but to kill and destroy," he said at a joint appearance with Netanyahu. "And in this sense, Israel can expect any help that the Philippines can extend to your country."

The two countries established diplomatic relations in 1957. Netanyahu has worked to cultivate new allies in Asia, Africa and Latin America, where many countries have historically sided with the Palestinians in their conflict with Israel, to help chip away at the number of anti-Israel votes at the United Nations.

But Netanyahu has come under fire for embracing Duterte, a 73-year-old former government prosecutor whose forces are accused of killing thousands in anti-drug raids since he took office in 2016.

Duterte drew outrage that year when he compared his anti-drug campaign to the Holocaust and himself to Hitler. More recently, he forcibly kissed a woman on stage and said there would be many rape cases in a Philippine city "if there were many beautiful women."

In its lead editorial Monday, the liberal Haaretz daily accused Netanyahu of selling out Israeli values for dubious allies.

"Under the shadow of Duterte's visit, Israel once again proves it's willing to overlook leaders' human rights violations for the sake of opportunities for arms deals and defense contracts," the newspaper said.

China's Xi pledges $60 billion in financing for Africa

BEIJING (AP)—Chinese President Xi Jinping on Monday pledged $60 billion in financing for projects in Africa in the form of assistance, investment and loans, as China furthers efforts to link the continent's economic prospects to its own.

Speaking to a gathering of African leaders in Beijing, Xi said the figure includes $15 billion in grants, interest-free loans and concessional loans, $20 billion in credit lines, $10 billion for "development financing" and $5 billion to buy imports from Africa.

In addition, he said China will encourage companies to invest at least $10 billion in Africa over the next three years.

China's outreach to Africa aims to build trade, investment and political ties with a continent often seen as overlooked by the U.S. and other Western nations. That has provided lucrative opportunities for Chinese businesses, while African nations are often happy to accept China's offers that come without demands for safeguards against corruption, waste and environmental damage.

No details were given on specific projects, although Xi said China was planning initiatives in eight areas, including providing $147 million in emergency food aid, sending 500 agricultural experts to Africa, and providing scholarships, vocational training and trade promotion opportunities.

The pledge comes on top of a 2015 promise to provide African countries with $60 billion in funding that Xi said had either been delivered or arranged.

Also Monday, Xi promoted Beijing's initiative to build ports and other infrastructure as a tool for "common prosperity" in a world facing challenges from trade protectionism.

Addressing businesspeople prior to the formal opening of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation, Xi said the "Belt and Road" initiative will expand markets. He tried to mollify concern that Beijing wants to build strategic influence, promising Chinese investment comes with "no political strings attached."

"Unilateralism and protectionism are on the rise. Economic growth lacks robust drive," Xi said in a speech. "China-Africa cooperation under the BRI is a way to common prosperity that brings benefits to both our peoples."

African and other Asian leaders have welcomed "Belt and Road" but some projects have prompted complaints about debt and other problems. The initiative involves hundreds of projects, most of them built by Chinese contractors and financed by loans from Chinese state-owned banks, across an arc of 65 countries from the South Pacific through Asia to Africa and the Middle East.

In a major blow to China's ambitions, Malaysia recently canceled Chinese-financed projects worth more than $20 billion, saying they were unnecessary and would create an unsustainable debt burden. Deeply indebted Pakistan is also reportedly reconsidering some projects in the multi-billion dollar China-Pakistan Economic Corridor that is a key link in the BRI.

Malaysian Muslim lesbian couple caned in public punishment

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP)—Two Malaysian Muslim women convicted under Islamic laws of attempting to have sex were caned Monday in a rare public whipping that was slammed by lawmakers and rights activists as a form of torture.

Lawyers and activists said the women, aged 22 and 32, were seated on stools facing the judges and given six strokes from a light rattan cane on their backs by female prison officers. More than 100 people witnessed the caning in a Shariah courtroom in northeast Terengganu state, they said.

Muslim Lawyers' Association deputy president Abdul Rahim Sinwan said unlike caning under civil laws, the punishment under Islamic laws isn't painful or harsh and was meant to educate the women so they will repent. The women, dressed in white headscarves and clothing, didn't cry or scream but "showed remorse," he said.

"Repentance is the ultimate aim for their sin," he said.

Human rights groups slammed the punishment as a setback for human rights and said it could worsen discrimination against people in Malaysia's lesbian, bisexual, gay and transgender community.

"Caning is a form of cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment and may amount to torture," Amnesty International Malaysia said in a statement. "People should not live in fear because they are attracted to people of the same sex. The Malaysian authorities must immediately repeal repressive laws, outlaw torturous punishments and ratify the U.N. Convention Against Torture."

Malaysia follows a dual-track justice system. Nearly two-thirds of Malaysia's 31 million people are Muslims, who are governed by Islamic courts in family, marriage and personal issues. The two unidentified women were discovered by Islamic officials in April and sentenced last month by a Shariah court to six strokes of a cane and a fine after pleading guilty.

Thilaga Sulathireh, from the group Justice for Sisters who witnessed the caning, said she was shocked by the public spectacle. She said Malaysian laws were inconsistent because civil laws prohibit corporal punishment against female prisoners.

"It's a regression of human rights in Malaysia. It's not about the severity of the caning. Corporal punishment is a form of torture regardless of your intention," she said.

Lawmakers also joined in the chorus of condemnation against the public caning.

"Islam teaches us to look after the dignity of every human being. And that mercy is preferable to punishment," opposition lawmaker Khairy Jamaluddin tweeted.

Lawmaker Charles Santiago said the government must repeal all laws that criminalize homosexuality.

"And this is because we really need to make sure that no one is publicly caned let alone because of their sexuality," he said.

World

Pope's remedy to those seeking scandal: prayer and silence

VATICAN CITY (AP)—Pope Francis on Monday recommended silence and prayer to counter those who "only seek scandal," division and destruction in what appeared to be an indirect response to allegations that he had covered up for a U.S. cardinal embroiled in sex abuse scandals.

Italian Archbishop Carlo Maria Vigano, a former papal envoy in Washington, stunned the faithful last month by claiming Francis allegedly lifted unconfirmed Vatican sanctions against disgraced U.S. prelate Theodore McCarrick and demanding that the pope resign.

"With people lacking good will, with people who only seek scandal, who seek only division, who seek only destruction, even within the family—silence, prayer" is the path to take, Francis said in his homily during morning Mass at the Vatican hotel where he lives.

Pope Francis gives his speech during his weekly general audience, at the Vatican, Wednesday, Aug. 29, 2018. AP

Hours after Vigano made the claim in a statement given to conservative Catholic news media, Francis had told journalists seeking his response that he "won't say a word" about the claims by the disgruntled former diplomat.

In his homily Monday, Francis indicated he takes his cue from God on whether to speak out or not about Vigano's allegations.

"May the Lord give us the grace to discern when we should speak and when we should stay silent," Francis said. "This applies to every part of life: to work, at home, in society."

"Truth is meek, truth is silent, truth isn't noisy," the pope said in his Mass remarks.

Vigano has contended that while Benedict XVI was pope, he had sanctioned McCarrick, including avoiding public life, but that Francis later allegedly lifted the punishment.

During the years that McCarrick was purportedly under sanctions, the cardinal celebrated public Masses and attended other public functions, even before Francis became pontiff. Vigano claimed that he told Francis, shortly after he was elected pontiff in 2013, that McCarrick had been given sanctions by Benedict.

Weeks before Vigano went public with his claims, Francis in July yanked McCarrick's cardinal rank after U.S. church panel deemed credible the American had sexually abused an altar boy. McCarrick has denied wrongdoing in that case.

It was the first time that a prelate had lost his cardinal's rank in a sex abuse scandal, and the move was widely viewed as an indication that Francis was trying to make good on promises to crack down on clerics who either were found to have abused minors or adults or who covered up for priests who did.

The Vatican let several days pass before attempting to knock down some of Vigano's contentions. On Sunday night, a former Vatican spokesman, the Rev. Federico Lombardi, and his English-language assistant, the Rev. Thomas Rosica, jointly disputed the prelate's claims about an embarrassing encounter he arranged with U.S. anti-marriage crusader Kim Davis during Francis' visit in the United States in 2015.

Vigano last week had insisted that Francis knew very well who Davis was and that the Vatican's top brass had given advance approval.

Rosica said Vigano had told them that Francis had chewed him out for "deceiving" him about the meeting and for having not told the pope that Davis had been married four times. Lombardi, who served as spokesman for both Benedict and for a few years also for Francis, contended that the papal envoy should have figure out that the meeting would have caused a furor.

The Davis meeting contributed to chilly relations between Francis and the former diplomat.

Following decades of complaints by faithful in the United States and elsewhere that they were sexually abused as minors or adults by priests, or that their abusers were quietly shuffled from parish to parish, the church, including at the Vatican, has been struggling to effectively deal with the problem, including the role of higher-ups in hiding the abuses.

Brazilians see metaphor for their struggles in museum fire

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP)—Firefighters dug through the burned-out hulk of Brazil's National Museum on Monday, a day after flames gutted the building, as the country mourned the irreplaceable treasures lost and pointed fingers over who was to blame.

The museum held Latin America's largest collection of historical artifacts, and the damage was feared to be catastrophic. One official told a Brazilian news outlet that as much as 90 percent may have been destroyed. Some parts of the collection were stored at other sites.

For many in Brazil, the state of the 200-year-old natural history museum quickly became a metaphor for what they see as the gutting of Brazilian culture and life during years of corruption, economic collapse and poor governance.

"It's a crime that the museum was allowed to get to this shape," said Laura Albuquerque, a 29-year-old dance teacher who was in a crowd protesting outside the gates. "What happened isn't just regrettable, it's devastating, and politicians are responsible for it."

The cause of the fire that broke out Sunday night was not known. Federal police will investigate since the museum was part of the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro. But protesters, commentators and museum directors themselves said years of government neglect had left the museum so underfunded that its staff had turn to crowdfunding sites to open exhibitions.

Luiz Fernando Dias Duarte, the museum's deputy director, criticized authorities for starving the museum of vital funding while spending lavishly on stadiums to host the World Cup in 2014.

"The money spent on each one of those stadiums—a quarter of that would have been enough to make this museum safe and resplendent," he said in an interview in front of the still-smoldering ruins aired on Brazilian television.

Roberto Leher, rector of the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, said it was well known that the building was vulnerable to fire and in need of extensive repairs. Duarte said he was in the habit of unplugging everything in his office at night because of the risk.

Civil defense authorities were concerned that internal walls and the roof could collapse further, so officials had to wait to conduct a full accounting of losses.

Duarte said that anything held in the main building was likely destroyed. Cristiana Serejo, a vice-director of the museum, told the G1 news portal that as little as 10 percent of the collection may have survived. The building was once home to the royal family, and the museum's collection included pieces that belonged to them.

The collection also contained a painting by the Brazilian artist Candido Portinari and extensive paleontological, anthropological and biological specimens. It held a skull called Luzia that was among the oldest fossils ever found in the Americas as well as an Egyptian mummy and the largest meteorite ever discovered in Brazil—one of the few objects that officials could confirm had survived.

UN court hears case over strategic Indian Ocean islands

THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP)—Officials from the Indian Ocean island nation of Mauritius told United Nations judges Monday that former colonial power Britain strong-armed its leaders half a century ago into giving up territory as a condition of independence, a claim that could have an impact on a strategically important U.S. military base.

Judges at the International Court of Justice began hearing arguments for an advisory opinion the U.N. General Assembly requested on the legality of British sovereignty over the Chagos Islands. The largest island, Diego Garcia, has housed the U.S. base since the 1970s.

"The process of decolonization of Mauritius remains incomplete as a result of the unlawful detachment of an integral part of our territory on the eve of our independence," Mauritius Defense Minister Anerood Jugnauth told judges.

Mauritius argues that the Chagos archipelago was part of its territory since at least the 18th century and taken unlawfully by the U.K. in 1965, three years before the island gained independence. Britain insists it has sovereignty over the archipelago, which it calls the British Indian Ocean Territory.

Jugnauth testified that during independence negotiations, then-British Prime Minister Harold Wilson told Mauritius' leader at the time, Seewoosagur Ramgoolam, that "he and his colleagues could return to Mauritius either with independence or without it and that the best solution for all might be independence and detachment (of the Chagos Islands) by agreement."

Ramgoolam understood Wilson's words "to be in the nature of a threat," Jugnauth said.

British Solicitor General Robert Buckland described the case as essentially a bilateral dispute about sovereignty and urged the court not to issue an advisory opinion.

Buckland also disputed Mauritius' claim about coercion, citing Ramgoolam as saying after the deal that the detachment of the Chagos islands was a "matter that was negotiated."

The U.K. sealed a deal with the U.S. in 1966 to use the territory for defense purposes. The United States maintains a base there for aircraft and ships and has backed Britain in the legal dispute with Mauritius.

However, Jugnauth said the base shouldn't be affected by his country's claim against Britain.

"Mauritius has been clear that a request for an advisory opinion is not intended to bring into question the presence of the base on Diego Garcia," he told the U.N. judges. "Mauritius recognizes its existence and has repeatedly made it clear to the United States and the administering power that it accepts the future of the base."

Good Housekeeping

Joe Pye Weeds creating Yellowstone type moments

By NORMAN WINTER
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

In Yellowstone, as you drive from one scenic point to another you'll notice cars pulled to the side of the road. This is a clear signal that something of extraordinary interest has been spotted. Bison, elk, moose, wolves and of course bears are at the top of the list.

The past few weeks, particularly in Georgia, we've been experiencing this type of moment but with unbelievably picturesque Joe Pye Weeds. There is one more caveat to this scenario however and that is the Joe Pye Weeds appear to be the Atlanta Hartsfield Airport for butterflies.

You have to admit it makes you feel good to know folks, and I am talking young ones, are so interested as to get out of their cars, for an up close and personal encounter with swallowtails, hairstreaks, and an assortment of bees. I too found myself getting off the beaten path so to speak to be a participant in this nature fest.

While Joe Pye will forever be tagged with the indignation of having weed associated with its name rest assured it is and forever will be a dazzling perennial for the back of the garden border. This year I saw them for sale at one of the national chains. Could ironweeds, goldenrods, and bonesets be next?

TNS

Joe Pye weeds are dazzling native perennials native from the Gulf States to Canada.

TNS

Joe Pye weeds create ' Yellowstone' type moments at the roadside as passersby take photos of the blooms and butterflies.

This relative of the chrysanthemum has been loved worldwide and made it into European gardens while we weren't even paying attention. Legend has it that Joe Pye was a Native American Indian, Jopi who used the plant to cure fever. While we won't use it for its medicinal properties this chrysanthemum relative can be a trusted perennial for the landscape and is a must-have for backyard habitats and butterfly gardens.

The Joe Pye has changed botanically from Eupatorium to Eutrochium. You'll find them native from the Gulf States to Canada. In my state of Georgia, we have three species and another just across the river that all gather under the Joe Pye name. We have Eutrochium fistulosum, or hollow stem Joe Pye weed which is the one is often seen at the edge of woodland roadsides producing rose-pink flowers on stalks that may reach 6 to 8 feet tall.

When I was at the Coastal Georgia Botanical Gardens we grew 'Little Red', a variety of the native Eutrochium purpureum. Little Red is a slightly more compact selection at 4 to 6 feet with large rose-purple heads of flowers. Then there is Eutrochium maculatum or spotted Joe Pye Weed that is also touted as compact but still reaches 5 feet plus. 'Gateway' is a leading variety that you

Then oddly, just across the river into South Carolina you will start finding the Coastal Plain Joe Pye weed, Eutrochium dubium. Little Joe is a selection of this species that has received rave reviews across the country. It too is more compact reaching 3-to- 4 feet tall.

Regardless of the one you choose, remember that the Joe Pye does best in fertile, loamy soil. To look their best, you will most likely need to give them supplemental water during droughty periods of the summer. Plant them informally in cluster or drifts at least 3 feet apart. With their rapid growth, you may find it to your liking to pinch in June to encourage branching.

Take a tip from Mother Nature and grow them with plants like Ironweeds, Lynn Lowery goldenrod, swamp hibiscus and anise hyssops or hummingbird mints. If you do you may just have those 'Yellowstone' moments where people are stopping by your home to participate in nature.

Gardening chores for September 2018

Newsday

Your annuals might be getting ready to call it a day, but you aren't allowed to rest: Weeds need to be pulled now, lest they come back in spring. There's planting and transplanting to do, plus clearing and cleaning vegetable beds and minding these 30 tips and chores.

1. It's time to renovate the lawn (or at least seed bare patches).

2. Last call to plant starts of lettuce, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, broccoli, mustard greens, collards, kale, Asian greens, radishes, beets and spinach for fall harvests.

3. Happy Labor Day! Fertilize established lawns one last time (but not a newly planted one) with a slow-release product.

4. Divide and transplant peonies, but only if overgrown or if it seems otherwise necessary.

5. Pull weeds up by their roots before they disperse seeds.

6. Before they fade completely, take cuttings of coleus and begonias, and nurture indoors until spring.

7. Inspect evergreens (especially dwarf Alberta spruce) for spider mites. If found, blast them with hose water and repeat every week this month.

8. No need to worry if you notice the innermost needles of evergreens turning brown and dropping; that's normal.

9. Shanah Tovah! For a special Rosh Hashanah treat, dip homegrown apple slices in local honey.

10. Plant separated, unpeeled garlic cloves, pointy ends up, 2 inches deep, 3 to 6 inches apart in a sunny spot for next summer's crop.

11. If you haven't already, place orders for spring bulbs to be planted next month.

12. Keep watering trees and shrubs, especially those planted this year, until hard frost.

13. Plant ferns in shady garden spots.

14. It's time to divide spring-bloomers, like lily of the valley, perennial phlox and Dutch iris.

15. Harvest grapes!

16. Bring in tender pond plants and place by a sunny window. Keep them moist until spring.

17. Avoid pruning spring-flowering shrubs. Doing so now would remove buds and result in fewer blooms next year.

18. If tomato plants are still producing blossoms, remove them so the plant can focus energy on ripening existing fruit before frost.

19. Before bringing plants indoors, rinse them well to remove hitchhiking insects.

20. Dig up onions when their tops flop over, then cure in the sun for three to five days; store indoors in a cool, dry spot as you use them.

21. Summer is officially over. Make a fall soup with the remaining vegetables from the garden.

22. When outdoor insects like crickets seek warmth inside, vacuum them and discard the bag. Resort to chemicals only for true infestations.

23. Plant deciduous holly, witch hazel, red-twig dogwood and beautyberry for winter interest.

24. Plant or relocate shrubs and water deeply.

25. Cut down the last of the basil, parsley and mint, and freeze or dry.

26. Rake beds where mildew, fungus or black spot surfaced this year, and dispose of leaves and debris in the trash.

27. Dig up elephant ears, gladiolus corms and cannas, and store for winter. Visit newsday.com/gardening101 for details.

28. Bring in the last of the tomatoes when the first overnight frost is predicted. If they're green, slice, dredge in beaten egg, then seasoned flour and cornmeal, and fry.

29. Harvest pumpkins when they are a rich orange color. Leave several inches of stem attached to prevent premature rotting.

30. Start planting new trees when leaves in your neighborhood begin to change color.

Life & Style

From penny press to Snapchat: Parents fret through the ages

NEW YORK (AP)—When Stephen Dennis was raising his two sons in the 1980s, he never heard the phrase "screen time," nor did he worry much about the hours his kids spent with technology. When he bought an Apple II Plus computer, he considered it an investment in their future and encouraged them to use it as much as possible.

Boy, have things changed with his grandkids and their phones and their Snapchat, Instagram and Twitter.

"It almost seems like an addiction," said Dennis, a retired homebuilder who lives in Bellevue, Washington. "In the old days you had a computer and you had a TV and you had a phone but none of them were linked to the outside world but the phone. You didn't have this omnipresence of technology."

AP

In this Wednesday, Aug. 29, 2018, photo, Kathy and Steve Dennis display several of their own cell phones and computer tablets along with their 1980's-era Apple II+ computer bought for their then young sons in Bellevue, Wash.

Today's grandparents may have fond memories of the "good old days," but history tells us that adults have worried about their kids' fascination with new-fangled entertainment and technology since the days of dime novels, radio, the first comic books and rock n' roll.

"This whole idea that we even worry about what kids are doing is pretty much a 20th century thing," said Katie Foss, a media studies professor at Middle Tennessee State University. But when it comes to screen time, she added, "all we are doing is reinventing the same concern we were having back in the '50s."

True, the anxieties these days seem particularly acute—as, of course, they always have. Smartphones have a highly customized, 24/7 presence in our lives that feeds parental fears of antisocial behavior and stranger danger.

What hasn't changed, though, is a general parental dread of what kids are doing out of sight. In previous generations, this often meant kids wandering around on their own or sneaking out at night to drink. These days, it might mean hiding in their bedroom, chatting with strangers online.

Less than a century ago, the radio sparked similar fears.

"The radio seems to find parents more helpless than did the funnies, the automobile, the movies and other earlier invaders of the home, because it can not be locked out or the children locked in," Sidonie Matsner Gruenberg, director of the Child Study Association of America, told The Washington Post in 1931. She added that the biggest worry radio gave parents was how it interfered with other interests—conversation, music practice, group games and reading.

AP: Franklin's family says eulogy was offensive

NEW YORK (AP)—The late Aretha Franklin's family said Monday that it found an Atlanta pastor's eulogy delivered at the Queen of Soul's funeral last week to be offensive and distasteful.

The eulogist, the Rev. Jasper Williams Jr., was criticized for a political address that described children being in a home without a father as "abortion after birth" and said black lives do not matter unless blacks stop killing each other. Franklin's funeral was on Friday.

"He spoke for 50 minutes and at no time did he properly eulogize her," said Vaughn Franklin, the late singer's nephew, who said he was delivering a statement for the family.

Franklin said that his aunt never asked Williams to eulogize her, since she didn't talk about plans for her own funeral. The family selected Williams because he has spoken at other family memorials in the past, most prominently at the funeral for Franklin's father, minister and civil rights activist C.L. Franklin, 34 years ago.

Williams has not backed down from anything he said at the funeral, and said he respects the family's opinion. "I understand it," he said. "I regret it. But I'm sorry they feel that way."

Besides a social media uproar, Williams heard resistance at the funeral itself. Singer Stevie Wonder yelled out "black lives matter" after the pastor said, "No, black lives do not matter" during his eulogy.

Williams had minimized the Black Lives Matter movement because of black-on-black crime. "Black lives must not matter until black people start respecting black lives and stop killing ourselves."

He also said "there are not fathers in the home no more" and said that a black woman cannot raise a black boy to be a man. Some people suggested that was disrespectful of Aretha Franklin, a single mother of four boys.

His eulogy "caught the en-

NBC's news chairman defends handling of Weinstein story

NEW YORK (AP)—NBC's news chairman sent an exhaustive defense of the network's handling of Ronan Farrow's investigation of Harvey Weinstein to his staff members, saying any speculation that the disgraced Hollywood mogul had any role in the network's rejection of the story was baseless.

But after reading the letter that NBC News boss Andy Lack's letter emailed to staff members on Monday, Farrow's former producer, Rich McHugh, said that it pointed to the need for an independent investigation into the network's handling of the story.

NBC's decision not to air Farrow's story, and to let him take it to the New Yorker magazine, became an embarrassment when he later shared a Pulitzer Prize with The New York Times for stories outlining Weinstein's alleged sexual misconduct.

In an attempt to counter any idea that pressure by Weinstein played any role in NBC's decision, Lack outlined all the times that the mogul and his lawyers reached out to the network's executives. In each case, they were ignored or told that they would have a chance to comment if there was a story ready for broadcast, Lack said.

Lack said he wasn't even aware the story was in the works the first time Weinstein called him. He subsequently called Lack nine times and sent four emails, "none of which were returned," he said.

He also detailed contact NBC News President Noah Oppenheim had with the Weinstein team, including the time lawyer Lanny Davis showed up at NBC's Rockefeller Center studio without an appointment. Lack also said Weinstein's team was dishonest in dealing with NBC and mischaracterized their brief conversations.

Fiancee wants her intended to halt 'boys' club' culture

DEAR ABBY: My fiance is in a group chat with a dozen of his friends. They are all professional men in their 30s with families. They regularly send each other pornographic images. This includes the group "icon," which appears to be a solicited picture of a woman's behind with the group name written on it with permanent marker. My fiance claims the image is "photoshopped" and that he doesn't look at the pictures. This disturbs me.

I think my fiance should tell his friends not to send these images and to change the group icon. My fiance disagrees. He says it hurts no one and it's OK to do in a private chat. I don't think it's so private since this is on the phones they use in public and it's in a group chat. It also hurts women by distilling their worth to looks.

Hasn't the #MeToo movement and ongoing shift in our culture shown it is sometimes men's responsibility to end this "boys' club" culture? I want my fiance to talk to his friends since they all live apart, but I want to convince him he should take a stand against this degrading attitude toward women's images.

TIRED OF BEHINDS

DEAR TIRED: Your fiance is not going to change his friends' behavior by doing what you are pushing him to do. I have it on good authority that this is not uncommon behavior among "guys" these days, the equivalent of old-time barber shop talk, reading men's magazines and looking at Playmate calendars —all of which have been transported to the digital platform. The members of the chat may talk about sports, cars and tech gadgets as well as about women—typical things men discuss when they're together. Unless they are using their phones to solicit extracurricular sex, I don't think you should be censoring their use of them.

DEAR ABBY: Our 25-year-old granddaughter is engaged to be married to another woman very soon. Her parents told us she is gay a few years ago. She's very independent and will soon have her medical degree. She has been away at college. When she's home she visits us, but we have never been able to talk about it with her.

She knows we don't condone something we believe is wrong. We are torn between going along or continuing to ignore the issue. Can you help?

NOT IN FAVOR IN KENTUCKY

DEAR NOT IN FAVOR: If you feel you can change your granddaughter's sexual orientation by telling her you disapprove of her being gay, forget it. It won't work and may drive a permanent wedge between you. It might be helpful if you talk to her and let her explain that her sexual orientation isn't something she "chose"—it's part of who she is: an intelligent, caring, accomplished individual who is dedicating her life to helping others. While it may be hard for you, keep an open mind and listen to what she has to say.

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

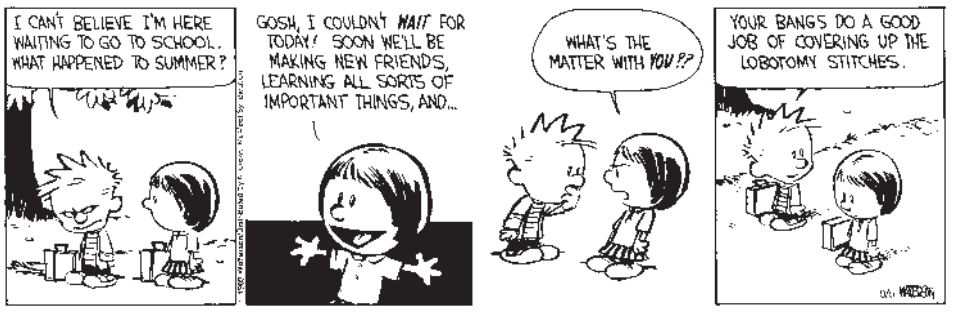
Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

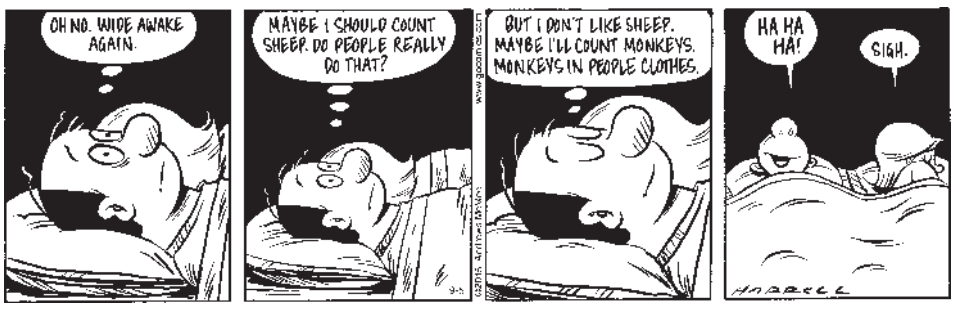

I CAN'T BELIEVE I'M HERE WAITING TO GO TO SCHOOL. WHAT HAPPENED TO SUMMER?
GOSH, I COULDN'T WAIT FOR TODAY! SOON WE'LL BE MAKING NEW FRIENDS, LEARNING ALL SORTS OF IMPORTANT THINGS, AND...
WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU!?
YOUR BANGS DO A GOOD JOB OF COVERING UP THE LOBOTOMY STITCHES.

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


OH NO. WIDE AWAKE AGAIN.
MAYBE I SHOULD COUNT SHEEP. DO PEOPLE REALLY DO THAT?
BUT I DON'T LIKE SHEEP. MAYBE I'LL COUNT MONKEYS. MONKEYS IN PEOPLE CLOTHES.
HA HA HA!
SIGH.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

ARF ARF ARF ARF BARK BARK ARF ARF BARK BARK
BARK ARF ARF ARF ARF ARF ARF ARF BARK BARK
IF SOMEONE GAVE ME A MEGAPHONE I WOULDN'T HAVE TO BARK SO LOUD.

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Pike or perch
5 Arcing tennis shot
8 A/C measures
12 "Dedicated to the — Love"
13 Where Lux. is
14 Country's McEntire
15 Scrawl on a wall
17 The yoke's on them
18 Episodic TV show
19 Facing
21 Trio after R
22 Back talk
23 Cacophony
26 Verb for you
28 Aquarium favorite
31 Sci-fi fleet
33 Nest occupier
35 Beloved
36 Biblical tower
38 O'Hare's airport code
40 Busy insect
41 Frozen desserts
43 Be sick
45 Back down
47 At hand
51 Saharan
52 New member
54 Refer to
55 Edge
56 Acute
57 Piano pieces?
58 Resort
59 Taxpayer IDs

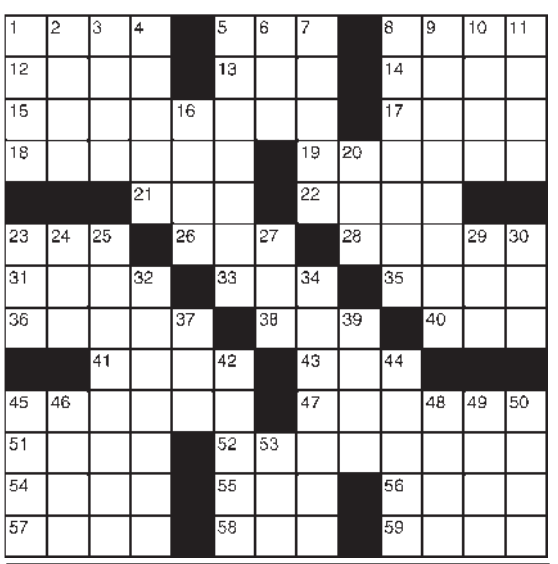
DOWN

1 Heavy mists
2 Concerning
3 Blacken
4 LP players
5 Free time
6 Ump's call
7 Londoners, e.g.
8 Shopped without buying
9 Crude oil, slangily
10 Taxi alternative
11 Hourglass fill
16 Greek cheese
20 Feedbag morsel
23 Tweak a soundtrack
24 "— tree falls ..."
25 Aristocrats
27 Swelled head
29 Scooted
30 Illustrations
32 Breaks away
34 Baby sitter, often
37 Actor Cariou
39 God, in Grenoble
42 Mixes
44 Doesn't have
45 Poolroom prop
46 One of HOMES
48 Numbered rds.
49 Existed
50 Desires
53 Wee bite

Solution time: 23 mins.

B	L	A	B	■	V	P	S	■	C	C	S	T
C	I	L	Y	■	O	O	C	■	O	R	C	A
R	O	S	E	H	I	P	S	■	H	E	A	M
E	N	O	■	O	■	E	■	G	N	O	M	E
■	■	■	T	E	A	■	B	I	C	■	■	■
S	I	T	A	R	■	S	A	S	H	I	M	I
I	D	O	L	■	P	I	G	■	■	M	A	N
T	O	O	L	B	A	R	■	S	P	C	O	K
■	■	■	S	O	T	■	W	A	S	■	■	■
P	U	S	H	Y	■	L	I	P	■	F	E	E
A	N	T	I	■	W	O	R	S	H	I	P	S
S	¯	E	P	■	A	G	E	■	U	S	E	S
T	O	M	S	■	X	F	D	■	¯	I	F	F

Yesterday's answer 9-5



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955!** 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Kat Graham, 29; Rose McGowan, 45; Michael Keaton, 67; Raquel Welch, 78.

Happy Birthday: Learn from mistakes and move forward with confidence. You have plenty to gain by being a participant. Greater involvement in groups and organizations that have something to offer will encourage you to use your skills diversely. A walk down memory lane will revive old dreams as well as friendships. Plan to attend a reunion or visit familiar places. Your numbers are 4, 12, 18, 23, 29, 33, 42.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Be careful what you wish for. Change is only good if your timing is right. Make sure you have discussed matters with anyone who will be affected by the decisions you make. Moving forward transparently will improve the outcome. ✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* Someone who has supported your efforts in the past will give you an opportunity. Include those you love and trust; you'll find greater satisfaction in your success. Discover and demonstrate the power of joint ventures. Don't look back. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Listen to what's being said and take your time responding. Giving someone the wrong impression will lead to setbacks when you want to make a change. Focus on self-improvements and how to use your attributes to get ahead. ✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Emotions will surface. Don't jump to conclusions or disagree with others without looking at every angle and determining what's best for you. Make suggestions and be willing to compromise. You will accomplish what you set out to do. ✪✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Being secretive is favored. You may like to be the center of attention, but when it comes to personal information, be reticent about sharing too much about what you have. Confidence will do more for you than bragging. ✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Forward motion is encouraged. Let the past go and submerge yourself in new beginnings. An emotional tie to someone will be tested if you socialize. Observe carefully, and consider how healthy this relationship is before denying yourself the opportunity to enjoy life. ✪✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Take one step at a time. Be cognizant of the people around you and how your actions influence others. A change in the way you handle domestic affairs should be considered if it will help keep the peace. ✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Show your emotions and make your intentions clear. The changes you bring about will enhance your personal life and lead to a better romantic relationship with someone you love. Be open to suggestions and be willing to make concessions. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Your words may charm some, but others will be leery of the promises you make. Walk a straight line when dealing with matters that concern money, contracts and legal matters. Ease stress by taking part in physical activities. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* The effort you put in won't go unnoticed. Be cautious not to put physical strain on yourself or cause emotional stress to those who care about you. Focus on personal and professional partnerships and doing your best to get along with others. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Keep an open mind, but don't let anyone talk you into something that is indulgent or costly. Use your common sense along with your charm to let someone down easy. Know your boundaries and stick to what works for you. ✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Participate in joint ventures that offer unusual returns. What you learn and the people you meet will be well worth your while. Much can be accomplished if you share your creative ideas and offer incentives. A change looks promising. ✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are sensitive, caring and open. You are helpful and a game changer.

To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

			7	4	3			
		9			2			
	5			6				
7				9				
5				1			4	9
3					6	1		2
	2							4
		1					6	
			9	5	7	8		

Difficulty Level ★★★ 9/05

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's Answer

8	2	9	6	5	7	3	1	4
3	4	6	1	9	8	7	5	2
5	7	1	4	2	3	9	6	8
6	1	8	7	3	4	5	2	9
9	5	4	2	6	1	8	3	7
7	3	2	9	8	5	6	4	1
4	6	7	3	1	9	2	8	5
1	8	3	5	7	2	4	9	6
2	9	5	8	4	6	1	7	3

Difficulty Lvl. ★★ 9/04

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

HEY, GOOD LOOKING! Solution: 12 letters

L	R	D	N	O	B	Y	D	W	O	H	L	C	G	C
A	O	S	G	M	W	E	V	A	W	G	A	O	O	A
U	M	H	R	E	T	T	A	L	F	U	E	M	R	P
S	U	A	E	W	H	E	T	U	C	A	P	E	G	T
A	H	R	E	I	C	Z	C	A	T	L	P	L	E	I
C	M	P	T	N	O	A	A	T	I	Y	A	Y	O	V
O	T	U	A	K	A	G	R	M	F	I	N	E	U	A
N	S	D	S	C	I	A	E	D	O	O	R	O	S	T
F	D	L	K	E	C	N	M	A	R	I	X	G	Y	E
I	N	O	E	T	T	I	O	T	S	A	U	Y	L	Y
D	E	V	L	R	R	O	S	E	S	H	V	N	L	K
E	I	E	I	E	C	U	D	O	R	T	N	I	I	N
N	R	L	M	T	C	E	N	N	O	C	A	A	S	U
C	F	Y	S	E	N	G	A	G	E	N	A	L	O	H
E	M	U	F	R	E	P	H	E	L	L	O	P	K	G

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Amuse, Appeal, Attract, Beauty, Bond, Captivate, Care, Casual, Charm, Ciao, Comely, Compliment, Confidence, Connect, Cute, Dance, Date, Desire, Engage, Fine, Flatter, Flirt, Foxy, Friend, Gaze, Gorgeous, Greet, Handsome, Hello, Hola, Howdy, Hugs, Humor, Hunky, Introduce, Laugh, Lovely, Perfume, Plain, Ravish, Roses, Sharp, Silly, Smile, Talk, Wave, Wink

Yesterday's Answer: Layers

Treasuries 13 through 33 can be purchased on line at www.WonderWordBooks.com.

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ITB NO.: ITB18-JUDICIARY-07

SUBMISSION DATE: September 19, 2018 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

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The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, or portions thereof, and waive immaterial defects if to do so would be in the best interest of the CNMI government.

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/S/ ALEXANDRO C. CASTRO
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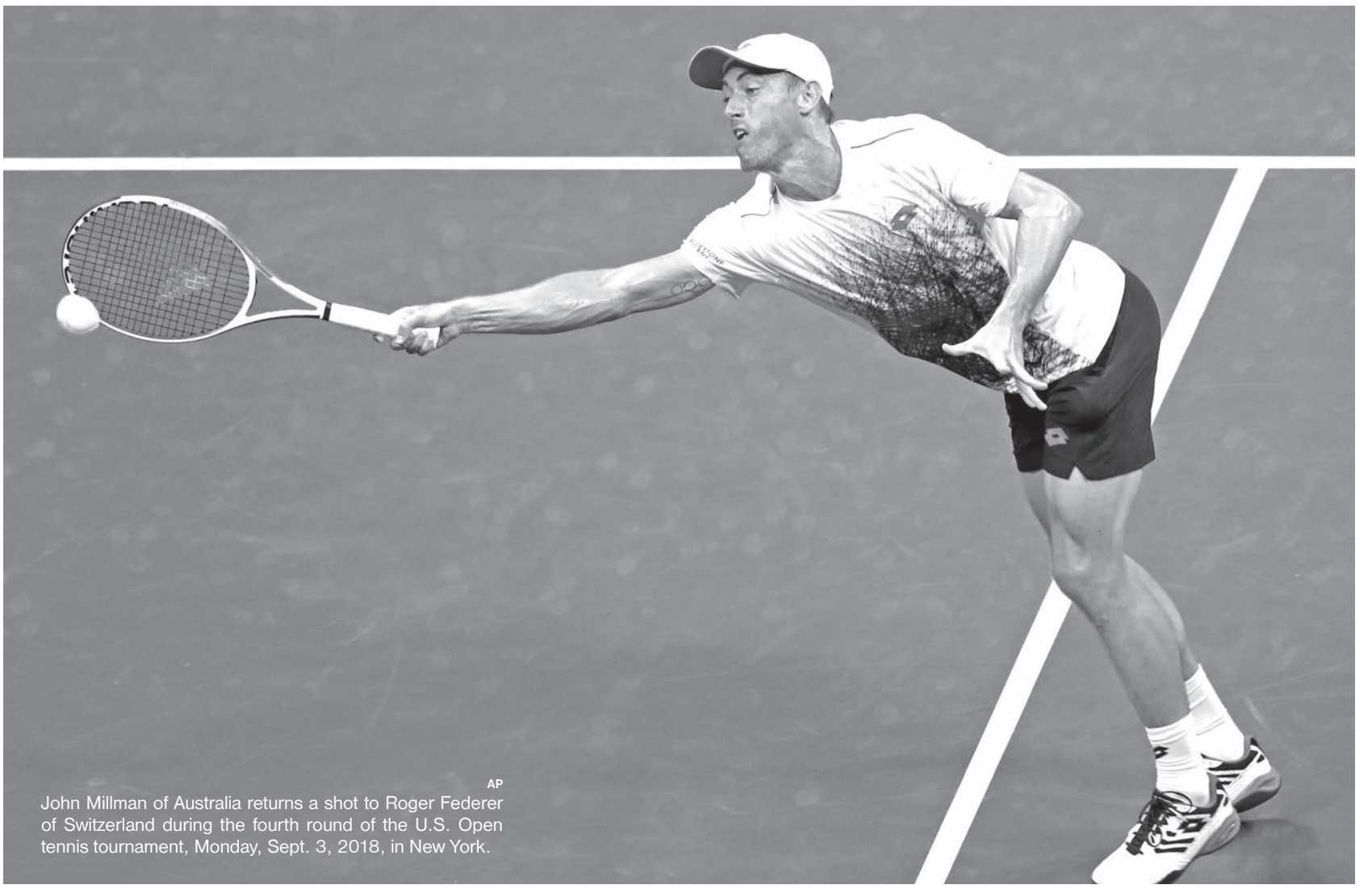
Federer stunned by 55th-ranked Millman



AP
John Millman of Australia returns a shot to Roger Federer of Switzerland during the fourth round of the U.S. Open tennis tournament, Monday, Sept. 3, 2018, in New York.

NEW YORK (AP) — Roger Federer served poorly. Closed poorly, too. And now he's gone, beaten at the U.S. Open by an opponent ranked outside the top 50 for the first time in his career.

Looking slow and tired on a sweltering night in Arthur Ashe Stadium, the No. 2-seeded Federer double-faulted 10 times, failed to convert a trio of set points and lost 3-6, 7-5, 7-6 (7), 7-6 (3) in the fourth round to John Millman in a match that began Monday and concluded at nearly 1 a.m. on Tuesday.

It's only the second time in Federer's past 14 appearances at the U.S. Open that he's lost before the quarterfinals. He is, after all, a five-time champion at the tournament, part of his men's-record haul of 20 Grand Slam titles.

"I have so much respect for Roger and everything he's done for the game. He's been a hero of mine, and today he was definitely not at his best," Millman said, "but, you know, I'll take it."

So much for that highly anticipated matchup between Federer and 13-time major champion Novak Djokovic in the quarterfinals. Instead, it'll be the 55th-ranked Millman, an Australian who had never made it past the third round at a Slam until last week, taking on No. 6 seed Djokovic.

Millman was adamant he would not be intimidated by Federer, and perhaps was helped by having spent time practicing together a few months ago ahead of the grass-court portion of this season.

Still, this was a stunner. Not simply because Federer lost—he entered the day 28-0 at the U.S. Open, and 127-1 in all Grand Slam matches, against foes below No. 50 in the ATP rankings—but how he lost. Start with this: Federer held two set points while serving for the second at 5-4, 40-15 and did not pull through. Millman knew that was the turning point.

"I felt like a bit of a deer in headlights to begin with, to be honest with you. The feet weren't moving. Roger had me on a string. He was manipulating me around the court," Millman said. "But I got out of a tough second set and really found my feet and started to be a little bit more aggressive."

Then Federer had a set point in the third at 6-5 in the tiebreaker, but again was stymied.

In the fourth set, he went up a break at 4-2, yelling "Come on!" and getting all of those rowdy spectators in their "RF" gear on their feet, prompting the chair umpire to repeatedly plead for silence. But Federer uncharacteristically got broken right back with a sloppy game, most egregiously when he slapped what should have been an easy putaway into the net.

And then there was his serve. In the final tiebreaker, he double-faulted twice in a row.

The first obvious signs of trouble for Federer came far earlier, in the second game of the second set. He started that 15-minute struggle by missing 18 of his initial 20 first serves. While he eventually held there, he needed to save seven break points along the way. It was clear the 37-year-old Federer was not at his best.

Maybe the 75 percent humidity played a role. Millman's big rips on groundstrokes didn't help matters. As the unforced errors mounted—Federer would finish with 77, nearly three times as many as Millman's 28—Federer's wife, Mirka, couldn't bear to look, placing her forehead on her hands in the guest box in the stands.

Federer hung his head at a changeover, a little black fan pointed right at his face, but nothing seemed to make him feel like himself.

Hours before, Djokovic left the court for a medical timeout—the second time during the tournament he's sought help from a doctor because of harsh weather—during what would become an otherwise straightforward 6-3, 6-4, 6-3 victory over 68th-ranked Joao Sousa of Portugal.

"I'm not 21 anymore. That was 10 years ago. I still don't feel old. But at the same time, there is a little biological clock that is not really working in your favor," Djokovic told the crowd afterward. "Sometimes, you just have to survive."

He reached the quarterfinals for an 11th consecutive appearance in New York as he bids for a third U.S. Open championship and 14th Grand Slam trophy.

The other quarterfinal on the bottom half of the draw will be a rematch of the 2014 U.S. Open final: No. 7 Marin Cilic against No. 21 Kei Nishikori.

Cilic, who beat Nishikori four years ago for his only major title, was a 7-6 (6), 6-2, 6-4 winner against No. 10 David Goffin, while Nishikori advanced by defeating Philipp Kohlschreiber 6-3, 6-2, 7-5.

Meanwhile, there will be a trio of intriguing rematches in Arthur Ashe Stadium as the singles quarterfinals get started. First up will be defending champion Sloane Stephens of the United States against No. 19 Anastasija Sevastova of Latvia, a repeat of their quarterfinal last year, which the American won in a third-set tiebreaker. That will be followed by a matchup between two big hitters: No. 3 Juan Martin del Potro, the 2009 champion at Flushing Meadows, and No. 11 John Isner, who will be trying to become the first U.S. man to get to the semifinals in New York since Andy Roddick in 2006.

The night session then returns to the rematch theme, beginning with six-time U.S. Open champion Serena Williams against 2016 runner-up Karolina Pliskova of the Czech Republic. The two outstanding servers, who both have been ranked No. 1, met in the semifinals two years ago, when Pliskova upset Williams before losing to Angelique Kerber in the final. And in the last match of the night, defending champion and No. 1-seeded Rafael Nadal will play No. 9 Dominic Thiem of Austria, the same pair that faced off in the French Open final in June. Nadal won that for his 11th title at Roland Garros and 17th Grand Slam trophy overall.

Sharapova eliminated, too

NEW YORK—Until Monday night, Maria Sharapova had never lost a night match at the US Open. In fact, on Saturday night she talked about how much the night atmosphere suits her perfectly.

But all good things must come to an end as Sharapova's record of 23 consecutive match victories under the lights in New York did against 30th-seeded Carla Suarez Navarro.

Suarez Navarro celebrated her 30th birthday by taking a 6-4, 6-3 win over No. 22 seed Sharapova to move into the quarterfinals. And with the match over by 9:00 pm there would be plenty of time for a celebratory birthday dinner in the city.

"Thank you so much guys," Suarez Navarro told the crowd after they shouted out "Happy Birthday" to her. "I needed to try to be aggressive, be focused. All the time I have to run and fight."

Coming into the encounter, Sharapova held a 4-1 career lead over the Spaniard, but the two hadn't played since the 2015 Rome final, which went in Sharapova's favor. The one previous match Suarez Navarro won over Sharapova was at the 2014 Montreal tournament.

Sharapova, the 2006 US Open champion, won the last of her five Grand Slam titles four years ago at the 2014 French Open. She missed 15-months on tour from the 2016 Australian Open when she was barred from playing due to testing positive for the banned substance Meldonium.

When asked what's disappointed her most since she returned to the game in April 2017, Sharapova had the answer.

"I think not being able to consistently put up the level from one match to another, stringing obviously in a span of hopefully a total of seven matches during a Grand Slam," she said. "It's just a little too up and down.

The problem is she isn't quite sure why that is happening: "I think if I did (know why) immediately, I'd be able to change that around immediately. I think it's always a work in progress, reevaluation, and always looking ahead."

Obviously professional enough to handle her post-match press conference, but clearly preferring to be elsewhere, Sharapova scoffed at the suggestion this is the toughest time in her career.

"You know what's challenging is when you're a teenager and you have a few hundred dollars and you've got no sense of the future, you don't know where you're going to end up," Sharapova said. "You just have a dream. I think that's a lot tougher than being 31 years old and having the opportunity to do whatever I want in my life."

Suarez Navarro now equals her best previous result at the US Open—a 2013 quarterfinal appearance—by advancing to the final eight where she'll play No. 14 seed Madison Keys, a finalist here last year.

The win over Sharapova is the only straight-set match victory Suarez Navarro's has had at this US Open.

Suarez Navarro arrived in New York coming off of her first final showing of the season at the New Haven tournament the Saturday before the US Open started. She fell to Aryna Sabalenka of Belarus in that final.

DeChambeau takes down strong field at TPC

AP
Bryson DeChambeau holds the trophy after winning the Dell Technologies Championship golf tournament at TPC Boston in Norton, Mass., Monday, Sept. 3, 2018.

NORTON, Mass. (AP)— Bryson DeChambeau plays golf differently from everyone else and is getting the results everyone wants.

It doesn't take a scientist to figure that out.

For the second straight week in the richest part of the PGA Tour season, DeChambeau took down one of the strongest fields of the year by playing his best golf on the weekend to win the Dell Technologies Championship, becoming only the second player to capture the opening two playoff events in the FedEx Cup.

He closed with a 4-under 67 on Monday, making three straight birdies to close out the front nine and keeping his distance the rest of the way for a two-shot victory over Justin Rose on the TPC Boston.

"I wouldn't have written it any better, to be honest with you," DeChambeau said. "I've been playing some great golf this whole year. And I knew it was a matter of time before something cool showed up."

Vijay Singh won the opening two FedEx Cup events in 2008, when the points system was different and points were not reset before the final playoff event. That allowed Singh to effectively wrap up the $10 million prize early.

DeChambeau, with his third victory this year, was assured of being the No. 1 seed when he gets to the Tour Championship, no matter what happens next week at the third playoff event outside Philadelphia.

And he would appear to be a shoo-in to be one of U.S. captain Jim Furyk's three Ryder Cup picks to be announced Tuesday. The idea is to find the hottest player to fill out the team, and no one has been close to DeChambeau over the last two weeks.

The 24-year-old Californian is known as the "Mad Scientist" for his approach to the game, from his single-length clubs (34 inches, roughly the length of a 7-iron), to his work on biomechanics to the calculations that go into every shot.

Nine calculations, to be exact.

DeChambeau doesn't want to give away all his secrets, but they range from yardage and wind to air pressure and adrenaline.

"He's facing the biggest and best fields," Rose said. "There's a lot of conjecture about how he goes about it. But when he delivers as he is now, it just proves it."

How much better can he get?

"You can always get better," DeChambeau said. "How much? I would say it depends on what I can do in the restrictions of my biomechanics. So it's all about error tolerances and being ... less sensitive to error. So that when you do feel like you mess up, it's not going to be that big of a mess-up. I hope that makes sense.

"But I can say there is another level."

DeChambeau, who started the year at No. 99 in the world, moved to No. 7, one spot past Rory McIlroy. He finished at 16-under 268 and made $1,620,000 for the second straight week.

Starting the final round one shot behind Abraham Ancer, and among 10 players within four shots of the lead, DeChambeau had a two-putt birdie from 50 feet on No. 7, took the lead with a 12-foot birdie putt on the 220-yard eighth hole, and then hit his approach to 6 feet to a back right pin at No. 9 for his third straight birdie.

Cameron Smith of Australia tried to make a run at him with a pair of late birdies, but DeChambeau answered with a birdie on No. 15 to keep his lead at two shots. Needing an eagle to catch him on the par-5 18th, Smith came up short and into the hazard and made bogey.

Rose birdied three of his last four holes for a 68 and wound up alone in second.

Ancer couldn't keep pace, dropping three shots in the tough four-hole stretch early on the back nine. The 27-year-old Mexican hit into hazard on the 18th and finished with a bogey for a 73. The small consolation for Ancer was moving from No. 92 to No. 56, which at least made him among the top 70 who advance to the BMW Championship at Aronimink.

A few others also were happy to have another week left in a long season.

Peter Uihlein, the former U.S. Amateur champion in his first full season on the PGA Tour, birdied his last three holes for a 68. He played with Keith Mitchell, another PGA Tour rookie, who birdied his last two holes for a 69. Both moved into the top 70.

Matt Kuchar failed to advance beyond the second playoff event for the first time in 10 years, meaning he won't get another chance to state his case as a potential Ryder Cup pick. Furyk makes his fourth selection after the BMW Championship.

The likely choices Tuesday would seem to be DeChambeau, Phil Mickelson and Tiger Woods — they finished Nos. 9, 10 and 11 when qualifying ended for eight automatic berths after the PGA Championship. Woods closed with a 71 and tied for 24th. Mickelson, who has played on every Ryder Cup team since 1995, boosted his case by winning a World Golf Championships event in Mexico in March, and he made nine birdies Monday in a closing round of 63.

A's gain ground on Yankees in wild-card race

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)— Mark Canha homered and Matt Chapman hit an RBI double to back Trevor Cahill, leading Oakland past New York, 6-3, in a matchup between two teams in the AL wild-card race.

The A's jumped on CC Sabathia early and pulled within 3 1/2 games of New York for the first wild card.

Cahill (6-3) defeated the Yankees for the first time in seven career appearances, the only AL team he'd never beaten. The right-hander improved to 5-0 with a 1.09 ERA in nine home starts, striking out three to leave him one shy of 1,000 for his career.

Brewers 4, Cubs 3

In Milwaukee, Christian Yelich drove in the winning run with the bases loaded in the ninth after beating a throw from third to avoid a double play, and the Brewers opened an important three-game series with the Chicago Cubs with a close win.

The .316 hitter hit a 1-2 fastball from Jesse Chavez right at third baseman Kris Bryant, who touched third for the second out of the ninth before firing to first. The speedy Yelich reached safely just before the throw landed in the glove of the outstretched Anthony Rizzo, allowing Keon Broxton to score the game-winner from third.

Mets 4, Dodgers 2

In Los Angeles, pinch-hitter Brandon Nimmo slugged a go-ahead, three-run homer in the ninth inning, rallying New York past Los Angeles in Jacob deGrom's latest stellar no-decision.

New York snapped a 12-game skid against Los Angeles.

Mariners 2, Orioles 1

In Seattle, Erasmo Ramirez allowed one run in 5 1/3 innings, and the Seattle bullpen shut down Baltimore the rest of the way.

Ramirez (2-3) allowed two hits, struck out five and walked none. The right-hander is 2-1 in five starts since coming off the disabled list on Aug. 12.

Royals 5, Indians 1

In Cleveland, Jakob Junis allowed two hits in seven shutout innings, Ryan O'Hearn homered twice and Kansas City won its season-high sixth straight.

Junis (8-12) gave up a two-out single to Francisco Lindor in the third and a leadoff single to Yonder Alonso in the fifth.

Rockies 9, Giants 8

In Denver, pinch-hitter Noel Cuevas delivered a go-ahead, two-run single in the eighth inning and Colorado rallied after squandering a five-run lead.

On an afternoon when Trevor Story hit two homers off Giants ace Madison Bumgarner and the Rockies seemed in command at 7-2 after five innings, they needed the rookie Cuevas to come through with a clutch hit.

White Sox 4, Tigers 2

In Chicago, Matt Davidson hit a two-run, game-ending homer as Chicago scored three times in the bottom of the ninth for its eighth win in 11 games.

Davidson hit his 20th homer into the left-field bullpen on the first pitch his saw from Detroit closer Shane Greene (2-6) after Welington Castillo singled.

Astros 4, Twins 1

In Houston Alex Bregman homered for the third straight game and Yuli Gurriel also went deep to help Houston win its third straight.

Dallas Keuchel (11-10) scattered five hits over six innings and allowed an unearned run for his second straight win.

Nationals 4, Cardinals 3, 10 innings

In Washington, Bryce Harper hit a tying, two-run homer in the ninth inning, then delivered a sacrifice fly in the 10th that lifted Washington past St. Louis.

The Cardinals led 3-1 with one out in the ninth when Harper hit his 31st home run.

Red Sox 8, Braves 2

In Atlanta, Ian Kinsler drove in three runs and Boston continued its interleague success, beating Atlanta in a matchup of division leaders.

The Red Sox have won 23 of their last 27 games against National League teams.

Padres 6, Diamondbacks 2

In Phoenix, Franmil Reyes homered twice and had four RBIs, Bryan Mitchell pitched five effective innings and San Diego knocked off Arizona.

Reyes hit a three-run homer off Zack Godley (14-8) in the second inning and a solo shot off the right-hander in the fourth.

Astros 4, Twins 1

In Houston, Alex Bregman homered for the third straight game and Yuli Gurriel also went deep to help Houston win its third straight.

Dallas Keuchel (11-10) scattered five hits over six innings and allowed an unearned run for his second straight win.

Foles will start for Eagles vs Falcons in season opener

PHILADELPHIA (AP)— The Super Bowl MVP gets the first start of the season.

Nick Foles will be under center when the defending champion Philadelphia Eagles host the Atlanta Falcons on Thursday night.

Coach Doug Pederson made the announcement on Monday, one day after a testy exchange with reporters in which he insisted he wanted to wait before ruling out Carson Wentz.

"In the best interest of everything about the football team and this decision, Nick Foles is the starter Week 1," said Pederson, who wasn't scheduled to speak to the media and plans to answer questions at his regular news conference on Tuesday.

Foles wasn't available Monday and will speak on Tuesday.

Wentz still hasn't been medically cleared for contact as he comes back from surgery last December to repair two torn ligaments in his left knee. Foles was spectacular in the playoffs and helped Philadelphia defeat New England, 41-33, to win the franchise's first NFL title since 1960.

AP

Nick Foles, left, will start for the defending champion Philadelphia Eagles when they host the Atlanta Falcons on Thursday night.

"We've had a lot of success with Nick," offensive coordinator Mike Groh said. "We've got a lot of confidence and faith in Nick and the way that he's going to play and the way that guys are going to play with him."

Wentz didn't play in the preseason and only recently returned to full practice. Foles struggled in two preseason games, had several turnovers and didn't lead the offense to any points on 14 drives.

"I have really very positive feelings about Nick and the way that he's played," Groh said. "I can only relate it to my experience and being with him on the same team as Nick is on. And again, a lot of confidence in Nick and the way that he studies and prepares himself to play and to play at a high level. We're very fortunate to have Nick Foles on this team."

Bills choose Peterman over Allen

In New York, quarterback Nathan Peterman never lost faith in himself following the most difficult moment of his young NFL career. What's more important, neither did Bills coach Sean McDermott.

In 10 months, Peterman has gone from throwing five interceptions in the first half of his first career start, to being chosen Monday as Buffalo's season-opening starter. Though the job is his until rookie first-round pick Josh Allen is deemed ready, Peterman's ascension from being counted out to being counted on is a testament to the second-year player's perseverance.

6JMS Mafia III, Jonny's Team Kyodai triumph

The 6JMS Mafia III and Jonny's Team Kyodai topped their respective divisions in the 2018 Saipan Electronic Darts Association League Bud Light League after winning their final game last Thursday.

Jonny's Team Kyodai ruled the Flame Tree Division after wrapping up the competition in style following a 15-0 demolition of Jonny's Serial Killaz (157-248). Jonny's Team Kyodai finished the season with a 285-120 record to rule the 10-team field.

The 6JMS Drillers came in at second with its 276-129 mark, while the Naked Fish Ridin' Darrty and Fish Na'Gupu rounded out the Top 4 after posting 244-261 and 217-188 records, respectively. The 6JMS Drillers still ended up at No. 2 in the final rankings despite a 7-8 loss to Naked Fish Ridin' Darrty. Naked Fish Fish Na'Gupu, on the other hand, won over Naked Fish DNA-Jump It (125-280), 9-6, to make it to the podium. The Top 4 finishers in the division will be recognized in the league's awards ceremony later this year.

Other teams that competed in the Flame Tree Division were Franken Boardmembers (207-198), Jonny's Real Deal (184-221), Naked Fish Dartaholiks (167-238), and Amari's Creepers (163-242). The Franken Boardmembers downed Dartaholiks in their last game, 9-6, and Amari's Creepers defeated Jonny's Real Deal in similar scores.

In the Fanihi Division, 6JMS Mafia III dropped its last game, bowing to 6JMS Shaka, 5-10, but the former still finished way ahead of the field with its 294-126 mark.

6JMS Mafia III was more than 30 wins ahead of runner-up 6JMS 80 Proofers (257-163), while another 6JMS-backed team Darty Minded completed the Top 3 in the division after earning a 250-170 mark.

Darty Minded finished the competition on a winning note, as it routed Oleai Desaten II, 12-3, while the Franken Drunken Warriors 2 also prevailed against the 6JMS Bandits, 9-6. The 6JMS Bandits (216-204) was ranked fourth in the final standings and was followed by7 6JMS Shaka (205-215), Warriors 2 (184-236), Oleai Desaten II (129-281), and Amarai's PungPang (135-285). (***Roselyn B. Monroyo)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Jonny's Team Kyodai players celebrate after topping the Flame Tree Division of the 2018 Saipan Electronic Darts Association League Bud Light League last Thursday.

CONTINUED

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competitions.

Swimming is one of the most successful sports programs in the CNMI, producing medals for the Commonwealth in numerous regional and international competitions.

Alepuyo added that IPI also hopes to continue the management and operations of the sports facilities once their requests to CLC and negotiations with DPL are secured. She, however, did not mention any commitments about the 2021 Pacific Mini Games, which Saipan will be hosting in less than three years, as IPI's plans would all depend on DPL's decision.

MPU

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tournament, which Vivid Blue won.

Vivid Blue, besides prevailing over MP United, blanked Shimizunishi in its second game, 3-0. The host team then secured the championship and earned an unbeaten record in the tournament following a 2-0 triumph over Veluwe. Shimizunishi took the runner-up honors despite tying Veluwe's win-draw-loss record (1-1-1) due to goal difference.

It was Vivid Blue's second title win in the competition, which is held twice a year with Vivid Blue and MP United alternately hosting the event. Vivid Blue's first championship was recorded in 2014 during the Pacific Ocean Cup 3 that was also held in Japan. MP United, on the other hand, owned the most titles in the tournament, winning the Pacific Ocean Cup 2, 4 and, 7.

CNMI

From Page 28

chased Griffin, who continued to move forward, forcing goalie Tsendjav Erdenebileg to step out of her spot and try to pick up the ball. The Mongolia keeper, however, was a little too late, as Griffin had already let go a left kick and the shot went in, giving the CNMI the lead in the 11th minute.

Castillo then made it a 2-0 advantage 10 minutes later, after she received a pass from Gillian Villagomez, dribbled, and passed through two Mongolia defenders. The midfielder was then met by another Mongolia defender, while Erdenebileg was the last line on defense, as again the goalie gambled on stepping into the play and grabbing the ball, but failed anew, allowing Castillo to hit the board.

The Luem Khen Koo-coached CNMI crew went on to keep the upper hand at the break and left Mongolia thinking how it could fight back in the second half.

Unfortunately for the Commonwealth team, Mongolia managed to rally behind Narmandakh, whose first goal came in the 51st minute when it kicked the ball high to the right corner and CNMI goalie Carla Ballesteros leaped to her left, but missed the catch.

Mongolia's second goal was then recorded 10 minutes later with Ganchimeg at the right place at the right time for the second follow-up. Mongolia had a corner kick and Ballesteros managed to push the ball out and did it again in the rebound off Sarangarav Otgonbaatar's attempt. However, third time was the charm for Mongolia, as Ganchimeg stayed in the play and kicked the ball back in to tie the match.

The exciting game remained in a deadlock until Mongolia got the breaks in the 82nd minute. The winning play started with Narmandakh beating Sharmaine Francisco to the ball at the left side of the field and dribbling forward, eluding the CNMI forward and defender Krizel Tuazon. Narmandakh then momentarily lost possession, as CNMI midfielder Britanny Wally and the former's teammate Unral Tuvshinjargal stepped inside the box. Soon, Ballesteros joined the scramble for the ball and fell down the pitch along with Wally and Tuvshinjargal, leaving Narmandakh alone to recover possession and hit the dagger, which Tuazon tried to stop, as she slid and used her left leg to deflect the shot.

Meanwhile, after nearly beating Mongolia, the CNMI's female players will return to the pitch today and try again to make it to the win column when they take on Macau in the 2pm match (4pm Saipan time). Macau lost to Guam last Monday, 0-5.

"I hope we can play better in the next two games and beat Macau. I am also excited to play against Guam," said Griffin. "It's an honor to represent the CNMI and score our team's first goal."

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	95	44	.683	—
New York	86	52	.623	8½
Tampa Bay	74	63	.540	20
Toronto	62	75	.453	32
Baltimore	40	98	.290	54½

Central Division

Cleveland	77	60	.562	—
Minnesota	63	74	.460	14
Chicago	56	82	.406	21½
Detroit	55	83	.399	22½
Kansas City	46	91	.336	31

West Division

Houston	85	53	.616	—
Oakland	83	56	.597	2½
Seattle	77	61	.558	8
Los Angeles	67	71	.486	18
Texas	60	78	.435	25

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Atlanta	76	61	.555	—
Philadelphia	72	65	.526	4
Washington	69	69	.500	7½
New York	62	75	.453	14
Miami	55	83	.399	21½

Central Division

Chicago	81	56	.591	—
Milwaukee	78	61	.561	4
St. Louis	76	62	.551	5½
Pittsburgh	67	71	.486	14½
Cincinnati	59	79	.428	22½

West Division

Colorado	75	62	.547	—
Los Angeles	75	63	.543	½
Arizona	74	64	.536	1½
San Francisco	68	71	.489	8
San Diego	55	85	.393	21½

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CNMI vs Guam in EAFF E-1 Football
Championships 2019 Round 1

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

The CNMI Men's National Team's Jonathan Capayas, center, attempts to steal the ball from Guam's Isaiah Lagutang during their game in the EAFF E-1 Football Championships 2019 Round 1 last Sunday at the Mongolian Football Federation Stadium in Ulan Bator, Mongolia.

The CNMI's Sunjoon Tenorio, right, dribbles away from two Guam defenders.

Guam's Travis James Nicklaw (4) beats the CNMI's Joe Fruit (9) to a header.

CNMI captain Jonathan Takano, right, stays close on defense against Guam's Shawn Robert Nicklaw.

The CNMI's Enrico Del Rosario, right, and Guam's Jason Cunliffe battle for the ball.

The CNMI's Jehn Joyner goes for a header.

The CNMI's Ryan Relucio, left, tries to sneak in and steal the ball from Guam's Jason Cunliffe.

CNMI and Guam players jockey for position.

Federer stunned by 55th-ranked Millman

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Sports

DeChambeau takes down strong field at TPC

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CNMI scores; scares Mongolia

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The CNMI Women's National Team threatened to embarrass Mongolia at its home soil, shutting down the host in the first half of their game in the EAFF E-1 Football Championships 2019 Round 1 before eventually losing the match, 2-3, last Monday at the Mongolian Football Federation Stadium in Ulan Bator.

Gianna Griffin and Jeralyn Castillo delivered the early goals for the CNMI to scare Mongolia, which later avoided the upset axe of the visiting team with Namuunaa Narmandakh coming off the bench and scoring a pair in the second half, including the dagger that saved the day for his squad. Tsolmon Ganchimeg, also a reliever, recorded the other goal for Mongolia.

Before rallying, Mongolia was caught off guard by the CNMI's twin goals in the first half. Griffin won the battle for a long high ball and eluded her defender as she dribbled to the right side of the field. Two Mongolia defenders then

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MONGOLIA FOOTBALL FEDERATION PHOTO

The CNMI's Britany Wally, left, uses her body to prevent Mongolia's Tsasan Okhin Orgodol from getting near the ball during their game in the EAFF E-1 Football Championships 2019 Round 1 last Monday at the Mongolian Football Federation Stadium in Ulan Bator.

Continued operation of pool eyed

ROSELYN MONROYO

Saipan Swim Club's Anthony Camacho-Deleon Guerrero competes in a local tournament held early this year at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool in Marpi.

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC said it plans to continue the management of the sports facilities that were part of the land leased by Kan Pacific Saipan Ltd. in Marpi.

Kan Pacific maintains and operates the Olympic-size swimming pool, baseball field, and the 18-hole Mariana Country Club. The go-kart race track is also part of the more than 50,000 square meter land leased by Kan Pacific, but it us under Marianas Trekking, which offers ATV tours and other outdoor sports activities.

"[The sports facilities] are included in the [request for proposal]. The management contract did include all facilities," IPI senior vice president for special projects Viola Alepuyo told *Saipan Tribune*.

The Department of Public Lands had already issued a notice of intent to award the land lease to IPI, which is the lone company that answered the RFP when the 40-year lease of Kan Pacific was about to expire. The actual lease agreement has yet to be finalized that's why DPL issued an extension to continue Kan Pacific's operations. The Legislature, once all issues are settled by DPL and IPI, will either approve, deny, or amend the agreement.

Alepuyo said the golf course would continue its daily operations once they get the green light of taking over the operations of the Marpi properties, but she's not sure if they could make improvements in the facility. IPI is also waiting for the approval of its request from the CNMI Lottery Commission to waive the requirement to only operate a 5-star quality hotel.

IPI's plan to continue managing the sports facilities, including the pool, could be welcome news for the Northern Mariana Islands Swimming Federation since it will start the 2018-2019 season later this month and CNMI swimmers are also preparing for several local and off-island

See CONTINUED on Page 26

MPU finishes tournament in Japan

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

MP United Football Club players and officials shake hands with Japanese players after their game in the Pacific Ocean Cup 10 in Japan last weekend.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

MP United Football Club's U12 players are back on Saipan after completing their games in the Pacific Ocean Cup 10 last weekend in Numazu, Japan.

The Gene Weaver and Patrick McCallion-coached MP crew played against host Vivid Blue, Veluwe, and Shimizunishi in a short tournament and scored six goals in three games. The team was composed of William Lee, Garrett Weaver, Dev Bachani, Kelly McCallion, Cosmo Hata, Allen Won, Stephanie Kim, Jin Hee Woo, Geon Ho Song, Andrew Chung, and Xavier Lee.

MP United first challenged sister club Vivid Blue with the latter eking out a 5-3 victory. Then its second game, MP United lost a closely fought match versus Veluwe, 0-1. After being shutdown in their penultimate match, MP United players managed to get their offensive game going against Shimizunishi. However, the Japanese team still won, 5-3.

Chung scored four of MP United's total goals and was named one of the most valuable players in the

See MPU on Page 26